

# THE ATHLETIC

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1878.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

**INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.—AN EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.** In connection with the Institute of Chemistry, will be held during the last week of JANUARY NEXT. Examiner, Dr. J. Russell, F.R.S.—Candidates can obtain further information on application to the Secretary, Mr. CHARLES E. GROVES, Somerset House-terrace, London, W.C.

**SOUTHPORT.**—It has been decided to hold an EXHIBITION OF PICTURES (Oil and Water Colour) next SPRING, to Open March 1st, in the Rooms of the Atkinson Free Library and Art-Gallery. The Hon. Secretary will be Mr. Charles Henry Brown; the Consulting Artists, Mr. J. W. Walker and Mr. W. J. Kerry; London Agent, Mr. W. A. Smith, 14, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital, W. This gallery, which is quite a model of construction and lighting, was opened last Spring with a very successful and high-class Loan Exhibition of Pictures, contributed entirely by Residents of the Town.

**THE ART CRITICISM MEETINGS** (in connection with the SOCIETY OF LADY ARTISTS), for obtaining advice on Pictures in progress of painting will RE-COMMENCE MONDAY, December 10. Works to be submitted for criticism and advice to the Examining Visitor, when the Rules and Principles of Art applicable to each work will be explained. Examining Visitor, W. H. Fisk, Esq., University College—Prospectus at Messrs. PHAEL & POLAR, Fine Art Gallery, 14, Berners-street.

**CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE GALLERY.** OPEN all the Year Round, for the SALE of BRITISH and FOREIGN PICTURES. Important NEW WORKS have just been added. The Sales last year amounted to £2000.—For particulars apply to Mr. C. W. WARE, Superintendent of the Gallery.

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**BRUCE-WRIGHT'S NEW CATALOGUE.—SPECIAL NOTICE.**—This important RESUME of SPECIMENS belonging to the Mineralogical (including Gems and Precious Stones), Geological, and Archaeological Works, with 23 Illustrations, will be published on the 10th of December. Copies will be forwarded in order of application. Price 1s.—BRUCE-WRIGHT, F.R.G.S., &c., 90, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.

**EOZON CANNADENSE.—JAMES R. GREORY** has just received some very fine SPECIMENS of the above, at Prices from 5s. and upwards. Sections of the same, cut by the Microscope, 2s. 6d. each, post free.—Museum of Geology, 85, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, London.

**GEOLOGY.**—In the Preface to the Student's "ELEMENTS OF GEOLOGY," by Sir CHARLES LYELL, price 3s., he says:—"It is impossible to enable the reader to recognize rocks and minerals at sight by verbal descriptions or figures, he will do well to obtain a well-arranged Collection of Specimens, such as may be procured from Mr. TENANT (14, Strand), Teacher of Mineralogy at King's College, London." These Collections are supplied on the following terms, in plain mahogany cabinets:—100 Specimens, in cabinet, with three trays... £2 3 0 200 Specimens, in cabinet, with five trays... .. 5 5 0 300 Specimens, in cabinet, with nine drawers... .. 10 10 0 400 Specimens, in cabinet, with thirteen drawers 21 0 0 More extensive Collections at 50 to 5,000 guineas each.

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**MISS GLYN, the Tragedian and Shaksperian Reader,** has the honour to announce that she teaches READING and ELOCUTION, and Prepares Pupils for the STAGE, at her residence, 15, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, W.

**MR. G. W. FOOTE will LECTURE** at South-place Institute on SUNDAY, December 8, at Seven, on CHRISTIANITY A FAILURE. A Selection from 'The May Queen' and Part-Songs.—Tickets 1s., 6d., and 3d.

**LIBRARIAN to the SOCIETY OF WRITERS to HER MAJESTY'S SIGNET.**—The Office of Librarian to the Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet, as recently held by the late DAVID LAING, LL.D., being now VACANT, Applications for the Office may be made to JAMES HORS, Esq., Interim Keeper of the Signet, on or before 1st JANUARY, 1879.—Information regard to the Office may be obtained on application to the Hon. JAMES W. MOSCROFT, W.S., Clerk to the Society, 7, Hill-street, Edinburgh, 30th November, 1878.

**LIBRARIAN, SECRETARY, or MANAGER of a LIBRARY INSTITUTE.**—A GENTLEMAN, thoroughly qualified, wishes for a SITUATION as above. Is a good linguist. Highest references.—Address CURATOR, May's Advertising Offices, 129, Piccadilly.

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The Curator will not be permitted to hold any other appointment, or to engage in or follow any other occupation, and he must be prepared to attend daily during the hours the building is open to the public subject to intervals for absence during the day to be approved by the Pavilion Committee. He must be of thorough business habits, possess scientific knowledge, and a practical knowledge and experience of library work. He will be required to take charge of, to superintend, and be responsible for the efficiency of all departments. Applications for the above appointment, stating age, late or present occupation, and accompanied with testimonials, are to be addressed to the Pavilion Committee, and endorsed "Application for the Appointment of Curator," and must be left at my office at the Town Hall before ten o'clock in the forenoon of THURSDAY, the 15th day of December, 1878. No personal application is to be made to the Members of the Pavilion Committee. JAMES A. FREEMAN, Town Clerk. 4th December, 1878.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.**

THE PROFESSORSHIP OF ROMAN LAW will become VACANT at the close of the present Session. Applications for the appointment will be received, on or before JANUARY 29, at the office of the College, Tower-street, W.C. TALFOURD KILY, M.A., Sec.

**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.**

THE UNIVERSITY COURT of the UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH will on MONDAY, the 9th of January, 1879, proceed to the appointment of the ADDITIONAL EXAMINER in MENTAL PHILOSOPHY in the UNIVERSITY. The appointment will be for the period from 15th February, 1879, till 30th September, 1880; and the person appointed will be eligible for reappointment for a full period of office, viz., three years. No person can be appointed who is not a Member of the General Council of one of the Universities of Scotland. Every applicant must furnish nine copies of his application, and of any testimonials he may send in. Those who send in testimonials are required not to send in more than four. Applications and testimonials must be lodged with the undersigned not later than FRIDAY, the 18th of January, 1879. For further information see the 'Edinburgh University Calendar,' Appendix, p. 55; or apply to the undersigned, J. CHRISTISON, W.S., Secretary, Edin. U.C. 40, Moray-place, Edinburgh, 1st Dec., 1878.

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B. C. Greenhill, Esq. Mrs. Greenhill.  
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## LITERATURE

*Royal Windsor.* By William Hepworth Dixon. Vols. I. and II. (Hurst & Blackett.)

MR. DIXON, in his new work, embarks with undiminished vigour and freshness on another topographical romance connected with English history. 'Royal Windsor' follows in the same lines as 'Her Majesty's Tower,' and aims at weaving together a series of popular sketches of striking events which centre round Windsor Castle. The material for such purpose is ample, and if Mr. Dixon applies his method to a sufficient number of public buildings he will be able to write the history of England after his fashion several times over. If he were to do so, the general result would be that many people would know more than they were likely to know otherwise; for Mr. Dixon makes learning easy, and beguiles his readers along the thorny path of antiquarian research. A severe student may smile at some of Mr. Dixon's pages, but the general reader is led into many historic byways where otherwise he would never have thought of venturing. Mr. Dixon makes everything vivid and picturesque, spares all troublesome erudition, and offers the plums of learning on the most attractive dish that he can mould.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Dixon's peculiar gifts have not adopted another field for their display, which might have enabled them to produce artistic results of greater permanent value. If Mr. Dixon had set himself to illustrate our national history by a series of romances such as Dumas has devoted to France, he would have produced works which might have stood to his present historical writings in the same relation as 'Pickwick' stands to 'Sketches by Boz,' and would probably have been much superior to Mr. Dixon's stories of modern life. The separate scenes which Mr. Dixon brings before us read like detached portions of a series of inchoate novels. They are always striking, and the effects are well managed. The characters are real, though slight, and the local colouring is judiciously applied. Mr. Dixon does not curb his imaginative faculties within the limits of one definite period, but lets them rove gaily from one age to another, culling the picturesque and romantic details from each.

It is the scenes that occurred at Windsor, not the place itself, that Mr. Dixon is most interested in. He does not succeed in representing to us pictorially the gradual growth of the Castle itself; we do not see it as it was at different

epochs, nor are we made to realize its military and strategic importance. With the higher regions of politics Mr. Dixon has little concern. Nor are his readers made to appreciate the life in a mediæval castle nor the pomp of a royal household. He supplies none of the details of tournament or festival at which the kings made merry with their lords. Personal antagonisms, political intrigue, the influence of women's loves and hates,—these are the topics in which Mr. Dixon delights. He approaches the history of England in the same spirit as Michelet deals with the last Valois or the court of the Grand Monarque. He gives the fashionable gossip of the day, touches lightly on the peccadilloes of great ladies, traces the rise and fall of favourites, and sheds over Windsor the mysterious fascination of suspected horrors which haunts the galleries of the Louvre and Versailles.

In doing this Mr. Dixon does something that is useful in its way. The picturesqueness of English history has been greatly overlooked to the detriment of historical knowledge. The vastness and intricacy of the constitutional problems which England has worked out with steady persistency tend to absorb the attention of historians and make them omit mere personal considerations. Yet they, too, have their place; and there is no real reason, as Mr. Dixon abundantly shows, why Englishmen should look abroad to see the rapid alternations that attend individual effort. Shakspeare alone has realized the personal character of English events, and Mr. Dixon has followed where he could in Shakspeare's traces. It is unfair to look for minute accuracy in such a work. Mr. Dixon says many things which would drive Mr. Freeman to despair, and make him think that he had lived and laboured in vain. But it must be remembered that Mr. Dixon is an artist rather than an historian, and he plies his brush with a liberal hand. One merit certainly such books as this possess—they bring a knowledge of the family relationships and connexions of men who figure in ordinary histories merely as names, or, at least, detached from one another, and wandering in impersonal regions.

Mr. Dixon's first two volumes only reach to the accession of Henry the Seventh. As might have been expected, the periods which attract his attention most are those when intrigue was rife—the reigns of Richard the First, Richard the Second, and Henry the Fourth. Events in England during Richard the First's absence have scarcely had sufficient attention paid to them. Let us hope that the names of Puiset and Longchamp, the bishops who strove for mastery, will become more familiar now that Mr. Dixon has taken them under his protection. His description of the two rivals is in his best style, and, considering the materials at the writer's command, in marvellous detail:—

"Hugh de Puiset was a son of Anak. Even in the North, where men are huge of build, he was regarded as a giant; but his height and mass of frame were softened by the graces of a figure which was lithe and plastic even in advancing age. A face of nobler type was never set in English head. His eyes were bright, his lips red and ready. Exercise in riding and fowling had kept him spare. His manner had the unbought charm of a reigning prince. To such a man Windsor seemed a natural home. William de Longchamp, on the other part, was one of those freaks of

Nature which, by oddity of shape, so often attract the favour of despotic kings. He was a dwarf. His head and feet were out of all proportion to his size. He limped. His body had the twitch of the monkey. Shrivelled in his loins, he had a gibbous chest, a short neck, a receding chin, and a dog's upper lip and chops. A meaner, a more odious face was never seen."

In the contrast of two such men as these Mr. Dixon finds ample room for his pictorial powers; indeed, his interest in Longchamp leads him away from Windsor to give the account of the landing and capture of Geoffrey Plantagenet, Archbishop of York. We incline to look on this story as the best in Mr. Dixon's book. Geoffrey escaped from the officers who endeavoured to arrest him when he landed at Dover, and fled into St. Martin's priory. There he sat himself in the chapel on the episcopal throne before the altar, wearing his alb and stole, and holding his cross. The Kentish men were afraid, having the fate of St. Thomas of Canterbury fresh in their memory. The soldiers pressed into the chapel, but for three days laid no hands on Geoffrey, while their leaders begged him to surrender.

"On Wednesday the onset came. Marney and Pintal were in church, when a wild movement swept along the ranks. Soldiers threw themselves on the ground, and beat their breasts, and cried out to St. Martin, like offenders in despair of grace. Then, having eased their consciences, they rose, rushed on the throne, and seized the archbishop by his arms and neck, and began to drag him towards the chapel door. He struck out lustily with his golden cross. Some feigned, some fell beneath his blows; but they were many, he was only one. They beat him to the ground; they snatched away his cross; they bruised his head against the stones; then, grasping him by the arms and feet, they bore him out into the yard. In proud and solemn wrath the archbishop marked these tools of the excommunicated woman with his finger, and denounced them as the enemies of Christ. In him they had profaned the priesthood; in St. Martin's priory they warred against the heavenly powers. Henceforth they were accused of Holy Church."

But scenes of unseemly brawling are not much to Mr. Dixon's taste. He delights rather in tales of the loves of kings and queens, of earls and ladies. In dealing with these topics of endless interest his style becomes still more tender and subdued than usual, and he speaks in honeyed tones. The love story of Edward the Third shows how Mr. Dixon can apply the resources of his erudition to enliven gracefully a hackneyed theme:—

"To crown his gifts of fortune, he was happy in his love. Many and dazzling were the brides proposed for him while he was only prince,—the female youth and loveliness of France, Navarre, and Spain. But he had chosen for himself, and taken as his queen the lady of his heart. This girl, Philippa of Hainault, was the eldest daughter of William the Good, Count of Holland, Zealand, Friesland, and Hainault. Edward had seen her, at the age of thirteen, in her father's court at Valenciennes—a tall, fair girl, with flesh all creamy white, and cheeks all rosy red. A few months older than herself, he led her in the ways of love, giving up for her his hardy sports, his shooting with the bow, his riding after hawk and hound. For her bright eyes he lingered in the house, and passed his morning hours in gazing up into her face. The girl was far from loth; and when they parted company in Valenciennes they were deep in love—so deep that neither time nor distance led to any change of mind."

Of course, after this idyllic picture of love and courtship the purity of Edward the Third's

married life has to be maintained, and the stories of his amours with Lady Salisbury are very properly rejected as unauthentic, after they have been told at considerable length. The queen who attracts Mr. Dixon most is Isabel of France, the child-wife of Richard the Second, whose fate is certainly picturesque. The most creditable testimony to Richard the Second's character is the fact that he won the child's heart by his tenderness and affection towards her. The farewell scene between Richard the Second and his wife on his departure for Ireland is dramatized by Mr. Dixon with much skill. Indeed, four chapters are devoted to Isabel, which are headed, "The Little Queen," "Deserted Little Queen," "Captive Little Queen," "Exit Little Queen." The titles of the chapters sufficiently indicate the means which Mr. Dixon uses to awaken keen human sympathy in the fortunes of historic personages. Those who liked 'Her Majesty's Tower' will find these two volumes equally pleasant reading.

*The English Lake District, as interpreted in the Poems of Wordsworth.* By William Knight, Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of St. Andrews. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

Of only one English poet could a web of mingled quotation and biography be formed which should serve as a picturesque itinerary to any district of English scenery. Yet this is precisely what Prof. Knight, with great felicity, has succeeded in doing in the case of Wordsworth. No more charming compendium of poetic description and rare verse has been issued for a long time than this little volume, which follows the career of Wordsworth from his birth in Cockermouth to his death at Rydal Mount, not in the spirit of either biographer or critic, but with regard to the natural features which more particularly attracted the poet's eye, and the record of such attraction that he has bequeathed us in his writings. The author's method may be best exemplified by following him over one stage of his track. To Hawkshead, the quaint market-town where Wordsworth spent more than eight years of his youth, Prof. Knight takes his readers, bringing before them in a few bright lines the narrow winding streets, the picturesque frontages of the houses, the old grammar-school, and the grey church set on the hill. We leave the school with him, and Wordsworth is allowed to describe in his own words "the lowly cottages wherein we dwelt," houses of the village dames in which the schoolboys lodged. The cottage of Anne Tyson, the poet's dame, is still preserved, and, in one beautiful passage from the 'Prelude' after another, we recognize the very window from which the child saw the moon couched in splendour among the leaves of a tall ash, the "famous brook" that lost his loud voice directly he was boxed within the old dame's garden, and other objects intimately connected with Wordsworth's earliest convictions of the beauty of nature. There would be a great pleasure in following, step by step, with Prof. Knight's volume in our hands, the various points of reminiscence, though we should have to mourn with him the destruction of the "rude mass of native rock" once in the centre of the market-place, and the fall of the ash-tree aforesaid. Even by the fireside this

pleasurable sensation may be very distinctly felt.

But the true value of the book depends less upon such minute local points as the identification of a house or a brook than upon the evidence its graver passages give of Wordsworth's method of treating natural landscape in his poems. It has been said that Wordsworth was a photographer of nature, that with a vegetable patience he collected and assimilated the detailed loveliness of lake and mountain to reproduce it mechanically in his verse. Nothing is further from the truth, and when the possibility of such a treatment was presented to his mind he rejected it with abhorrence. He said himself, in a remarkable conversation with Mr. Aubrey de Vere, referring to a realistic poet of the baser sort:—

"Nature does not permit an inventory to be made of her charms! He should have left his pencil and note-book at home; fixed his eye, as he walked, with a reverent attention on all that surrounded him, and taken all into a heart that could understand and enjoy. Afterwards he would have discovered that while much of what he had admired was preserved to him, much was also most wisely obliterated. That which remained, the picture surviving in his mind, would have presented the ideal and essential truth of the scene, and done so in a large part by discarding much which, though in itself striking, was not characteristic. In every scene many of the most brilliant details are but accidental."

In the notes he dictated to Miss Fenwick, Wordsworth himself confessed to not a few adaptations and even wilful inaccuracies. A striking instance of his method is found in the third poem in the series "On the Naming of Places," poems which, one would be prepared to suppose, would, from their very nature, demand a rather scrupulous attention to detail. In describing, however, the eminence which bore his own name, the poet makes a special point of saying that it can be beheld "from our orchard-seat," and this gives the reader that intimate and particular interest in the eminence which is required to give dignity to the poem. Yet Wordsworth, pressed by Miss Fenwick, confessed that "it is not accurate that the Eminence . . . could be seen from our orchard-seat." Here we see the artist as opposed to the mere topographer or mechanical painter. Among all his studies from existing forms in nature few are grander and none more characteristically treated than 'Joanna's Rock.' It will be remembered that he represents the Vicar, his favourite ideal of the Anglican churchman, coming to him as he carved a name in vast letters on a rock above the Rotha, and expostulating with him on the revival of a pagan custom. He explains that it is the name of Joanna (Miss Hutchinson) that he is inscribing, and tells, in verse of rare delicacy and beauty, how he and she were wandering by the Rotha, under this very crag, when the poet was taken by a rapture at the beauty of the foliage:—

When I had gazed perhaps two minutes' space,  
Joanna, looking in my eyes, beheld  
That ravishment of mine, and laughed aloud.  
The Rock, like something starting from a sleep,  
Took up the Lady's voice, and laughed again;  
That ancient Woman seated on Helm-Crag  
Was ready with her cavern; Hammer-scar  
And the tall steep of Silver-How sent forth  
A noise of laughter; southern Loughrigg heard,  
And Fairfield answered with a mountain tone;  
Helvellyn far into the clear blue sky  
Carried the Lady's voice,—old Skiddaw blew

His speaking-trumpet; back out of the clouds  
Of Glaramara southward came the voice;  
And Kirkstone tossed it from his misty head.

This belongs to the first order of descriptive poetry; no more inspiring or inspired transcript of the ghastliness of a repeated echo was ever given in verse, and the detailed catalogue of names is exact enough to suit a local guide-book. Yet the exactitude is actually far less than we should suppose; there is more imagination and less realism in the picture than the bewitched eye and ear may fancy. In the first place no lady's laugh, no laugh at all that was not of the most piercing and demoniac character, could possibly be repeated so far or so long as this. Moreover, when the topographical student of Wordsworth thinks to discover easily the spot so circumstantially described, it fades before him like an enchanted island. The "lofty firs" of the poem Prof. Knight has identified with some fir-trees near Grasmere Church, and, following the course taken by the poet and by Joanna, he reaches the Helm Crag. But "Joanna's Rock," with Wordsworth's runic characters, cannot be discovered, and the critic has been baffled in his investigation, he declares, by several deviations from accuracy in the details of this poem. Yet this is precisely what a lover of poetry would expect and desire; nothing could be more true and faithful to nature and to the peculiar sentiment of the Lake District than the description in 'Joanna's Rock'; but the poet was, above all things, an artist, and he claims the artist's prerogative of composition and arrangement. Before leaving this subject, which has a deep significance as typical of Wordsworth's nature-study, we may quote, in contrast to the modern writer's echo scene, a closely parallel passage treated by a spirited and patient, but not imaginative, topographical poet. Drayton, in the thirtieth canto of his 'Poly-Olbion,' thus describes the resonance that dwells within the Cumberland mountains:—

Which Copeland scarce had spoke, but quickly every  
hill  
Upon her verge that stands, the neighbouring valleys  
fill;  
Helvillon from his height, it through the mountains  
threw,  
From whence as soon again the sound Dunbalaire  
drew,  
From whose storm-trophied head it on the Windross  
went,  
Which, towards the sea again, resounded it to Dent,  
That Brodwater, therewith within her banks astound,  
In sailing to the sea, told it to Egremound,  
Whose buildings, walks, and streets, with echoes loud  
and long,  
Did mightily commend old Copeland for her song.

The only fault that can be found or suggested in commenting on the conscientious labour of love carried out in this volume is that it may increase and hasten that profane desolation of the Lake District which has already gone so far. It is dreadful to think of the outrages which a personally conducted party might commit in following a guide armed with Prof. Knight's volume: what desecration of the terrace at Cockermouth; what clattering of ignorant fussiness over the flags that cover the "famous brook" at Hawkshead; what scoring of vulgar names among the runic letters of Joanna's name, if, indeed, the divinities of Cumberland do not continue to protect these latter with the charm of invisibility. Even as we write an appeal to the pious to contribute for the restoration of Grasmere

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Church goes out into the world of reckless and tasteless benevolence, and we may soon expect to see the pale walls that Wordsworth loved stripped of their plaster and desecrated as those of Hawkhead have been before them. The Philistines have as yet abstained from adding their foolish signatures to the six sacred names initialed on the Rock of Thirlmere, but a worse fate threatens this relic: it is to be submerged in the dull waters of a reservoir. Already the conduct of tourists has closed to their boats the exquisite waters of Esthwaite. One minor annoyance which presses with no little weight upon residents in the Lake District is referred to by Prof. Knight in an appeal as touching as, we fear, it will be in vain:—

"Is it too much to expect of tourists and travellers that they should learn to admire the loveliest things in nature, without snatching them from their birthplace and destroying them? Can they not rejoice in the presence of Beauty, and let the memory of what they have seen remain a possession and a joy for ever, without adding the secondary gratification of plucking it, and carrying it a few miles, to wither in their hands or those of others? It is surely sacrilege to uproot such memorials as the *Silene acaulis* of Grisdale Tarn, or the daffodils and the Christmas roses at Dove Cottage."

The plant first mentioned is the Moss Campion, the "meek flower" that grew beside the place where William Wordsworth parted from his brother John, and in the memory of which he found such comfort when he came to write the 'Elegiac Verses' in 1805. This spot was exactly where, at the foot of Grisdale Tarn, the Helvellyn path diverges from the track to Paterdale, a point constantly passed by tourists. The result is that the Moss Campion is even rarer than it was when Wordsworth deprecated its destruction, and most people will applaud the discretion of Prof. Knight, who knows where it can still be found, but will not divulge the secret to a greedy world.

*The Transvaal of To-day.* By Alfred Aylward, Commandant Transvaal Republic, (late) Lydenberg Volunteers. (Blackwood & Sons.) ACCORDING to the author of 'The Transvaal of To-day' the Boers of South Africa are the most maligned of mankind. He admits, indeed, that the Boers have inherited the faults of their ancestors, Dutch puritans of the most rigid type, whose bigotry was increased by the advent of persecuted and enthusiastic Huguenots. The prejudices and dogmas of the Dutch Calvinists and the French have been stereotyped in the Southern Hemisphere, while they have been almost forgotten in France and Holland. The Boers are, he says, the Dutch of two centuries ago, who look with even greater disgust upon the Dutch of to-day than they do upon the Englishman who has become their master.

Mr. Aylward rightly urges that too much should not be expected from the Boers; that they are peasants, and therefore it is not fair to seek for literary culture among them. The standard of education must be low where "the farms are at an average distance of nine miles from each other." Their houses are rough, destitute of windows, and floored with clay, because it is difficult to obtain sashes for windows and boards for flooring; they go to bed at sunset because they have no candles,

and are dependent on "a little coarse fat from slaughtered animals, with a bit of rag." He owns that their practice of sleeping in their clothes is objectionable; but it is the necessary result, he says, of the ingrained habits of "trekking," which they have acquired during the last forty years, and of the need of constant watchfulness. These are legitimate excuses for the low type of civilization which is to be found in the Transvaal; but the writer is unnecessarily annoyed at the good-humoured banter of Mr. Anthony Trollope, and betrays that sensitiveness to criticism which is characteristic of colonists. What seems to have irritated him most was a suggestion of Mr. Trollope's that the Transvaal would never have known the taste of bitter beer were it not for the British army. He indignantly declares that for

"Twenty years before a British soldier saw the Vaal, bitter beer was an article of commerce, and that more bitter ale, Hennessy's brandy, and good Rhine wine had been drunk for the last ten years than in all the towns of Natal, which has for years been under the immediate supervision of British authorities, and this despite of all the assistance the military could give its inhabitants."

The lively description in these pages of the dinner given to Sir Theophilus Shepstone and Sir Arthur Cunyngame upon the proclamation of annexation amply vindicates the Mynheer's representatives in South Africa from Mr. Trollope's gibe. The domestic life of the Boers, Mr. Aylward adds, is one of patriarchal simplicity,—every virtue under heaven is attributed to them. Men and women are alike the objects of the author's admiration. In fact the whole of this volume is a panegyric upon the Dutch and an attack on the British settler. The cause of this may possibly be guessed. Mr. Aylmer, who, we fancy, is an Irishman, and perhaps an Irreconcilable, held a responsible position under the former Government, and had organized the Lydenberg volunteer force of 108 men, with whom he held Secoceni in check, and had thus done the state some service. The British authorities neglected his claims, and he complains that in spite of Sir Theophilus Shepstone's proclamation that all contracts and rights should be respected, faith was broken with his men. Each volunteer was to receive 5*l.* a month, and a grant of four thousand acres on the successful termination of the war. This promise was not fulfilled by the new régime.

It is well known that the original cause of "the great trek" was the anger felt by the Dutch settlers at the abolition of slavery. From that time until now slavery has been maintained by the Boers, sometimes, it has been said, with great cruelty, sometimes disguised under the name of apprenticeship. So notorious was its existence, that the British Government found it necessary to stipulate for its suppression when acknowledging the independence of the Dutch republics. Mr. Trollope says that when he was there last year it was "rampant." Livingstone and others, amongst them Governor Keate, corroborate its existence. The latter writes:—

"The Transvaal Government professes to forbid slavery, but its weakness as a government is such as to render the prohibition practically inoperative. It exists under the name of apprenticeship, and sales of these apprentices habitually take place, under the description, in mercantile books, of 'black ivory.'"

Mr. Aylward totally denies its existence. He represents the Boers as being kind and paternal in their treatment of the natives, and declares that they promote education and missions to them:—

"As I proceeded further on my journey through the Transvaal, I saw in various directions gardens, fruitful orchards, and small square houses in the possession of blacks, who were living in ordinary prosperity, having abandoned polygamy and other horrid customs resulting from it. So great an improvement I had not noticed during any part of my previous residence in Natal. When I had time, I inquired of the Landdrost of Lydenberg who were these people, and what was their condition? He explained to me that they were the so-called slaves of the Dutch. . . . I have gone into the huts of hundreds of these 'tame' people, and have rarely seen one where there was not a gun and ammunition ready to be used willingly and faithfully for the defence of the flocks and herds of the much maligned Boer. These folk were perfectly free to come or go, yet I have never known an instance in which an Englishman, with all his virtues, or an English lady, with all her goodness and kindness, could keep his or her house full of servants in the same way as the Boer could. I have myself repeatedly offered large wages to this class of people to live with me and others; they would never do so; the Boers' had brought them up, and they would remain with the Boers. . . . Far different, indeed, are the relations between an Englishman and his Kaffir. As the native is seldom respectful, the master is often angry and revengeful."

Again he remarks:—

"It is a noticeable fact that the Boers and their cattle are undisturbed by the Kaffirs. It is a much more noticeable fact that every outrage committed by the Kaffirs during this second war, with one exception, has been directed against Englishmen and their property."

Yet Mr. Trollope asserts that "the natives had long learned to respect the English and to hate the Dutch."

In this conflict of evidence what is the reader to believe? Mr. Noble, in his work upon South Africa, which Mr. Aylward declares is an "excellent but prejudiced" book, details instances of unheard-of revenge inflicted on the natives for outrages which rival those of Bulgaria or of Rhodes:—

"Hermanus Potgeiter had gone on an hunting expedition, elephant-hunting and the collection of ivory and ostrich feathers being his chief occupation. He was a rough borderer, who had no compunction about forcibly carrying off anything he found in possession of natives, and even occasionally made a raid against them, capturing their children for barter with traders from Delagoa Bay and elsewhere. In passing the neighbourhood of a tribe under the chief Makapan who had suffered from such depredations, they fell upon Potgeiter and barbarously murdered both himself and his party, including some women and children; the families of some other emigrants, who had gone to Makapan for the purpose of bartering corn, were also destroyed. Hermanus Potgeiter was pinned to the ground, while his savage foes actually skinned him alive; the fate of the others was equally horrible."

Here follow revolting details:—

"Makapan and his tribe had meanwhile retired and ensconced themselves in one of the vast caverns which occur in the limestone formation in that part of the country. . . . These extraordinary caverns were upwards of 2,000 feet in length, by 300 or 500 feet wide, intersected by several walls, and so dark that no one could penetrate the gloom. . . . Eight days' close siege, however, did not prove effectual. It was then determined to block up the entrances. Fifty teams of oxen and about 300 friendly Kaffirs were employed at this work, and many loads of stone and trees were



thrown down into the openings of the caverns. . . . At the end of three weeks the 'commando' could no longer bear the horrible stench of the dead both within and without the cave, and Prætorius gave the order to raise the siege. The number of Kaffirs who had fallen outside amounted to upwards of 900. Those who had died inside must have been much greater. Makapan and his tribe were well nigh annihilated and their village laid in ashes."

Merensky, in his 'Beiträge,' writes, "One Boer on the northern boundary of the Cape Colony boasted 'that in six years he had caught or killed 3,200 Bushmen'; another, that in the struggles in which he had taken part, 2,700 Bushmen had lost their lives."

After this we were not surprised to learn that the "fundamental law" of the Transvaal, adopted by acclamation, was that "The people will admit of no equality of persons of colour with white inhabitants either in Church or State." On the other hand, the English have attempted to raise the native to a higher level, and Sir Henry Barkly, late Governor of the Cape, writes:—

"Probably no administration of native affairs in any part of the world has been attended with greater comparative success, and there can be no more gratifying spectacle than that of a tribe of 150,000 males (Basutos), who a few years ago were the terror of their neighbours, living peacefully, contentedly, and prosperously under the rule of half a dozen magistrates of European extraction, unsupported for some time by a single white policeman."

Yet Mr. Aylward declares:—

"Nothing marks more distinctly how far behind the Dutch other Europeans are in their management of natives than the superior respect shown even to the youngest child in a Dutch house by blacks who could be savagely insolent to Englishmen and to others."

And again,—

"It is a remarkable fact that during the present war Secoceni's people have carefully avoided attacking the Boers, but have in every instance, save one case of shooting, which might have been accidental, confined their demonstrations to essentially English farms and locations."

Perhaps this accounts for the statement that not a single Boer co-operates with us now.

It is only possible to notice a few more of the facts on which Mr. Aylward differs from everybody. He denies that the country was insolvent. Yet President Burgers says,— "To-day a bill for 1,100*l.* was laid before me for signature, but I would sooner have cut off my right hand than sign that paper, for I have not the slightest ground to expect that when that bill becomes due there will be a penny to pay it with." And again, "In January of this year 2,250*l.* was due for interest, and there was not a penny to meet it."

Faith in Mr. Aylward is shaken not only because he contradicts all the information that other writers have furnished, but because he contradicts himself, and that in important particulars. On p. 21 Mr. Aylward says, "Roughly speaking there are 8,000 families living by farming work by one way or another"; but on pp. 156 and 358 he says, "the whole country consists of an unascertained number of (say 25,000) farms." As the whole white population is reckoned by him at 50,000, the latter number is absurd.

His fear that England is on the verge of a war more costly than the Abyssinian expedition is strangely at variance with the following account of the Zulus:—

"Their numbers have been greatly exaggerated, and their prowess in war magnified by interested persons for purposes which I trust the whole course of this narrative will tend to expose. They were a conquering people until 1840, when they were utterly and thoroughly annihilated by about four hundred farmers armed with flint lock guns and pocket-knives. . . . The Zulu nation is a bugbear, and the sooner Bogy is got rid of the better. An aged Transvaal farmer, speaking of this matter to an officer, said, 'Profane people and blackguards often say that the devil is necessary to the existence of parsons. If things go on much longer as they have been going for years past, political scoffers will say that the Zulus serve the Shepstones in much the same way.' There can be no doubt that the farmer nearly echoed public opinion. South African politicians keep up a sort of domestic devil for every-day use: his name is Cetawayo."

After a terrible indictment against England for tyranny and misgovernment; after accusing her of fomenting quarrels between the Zulus and the Boers for the purpose of coercing the latter; after asserting that not one in forty of the population was favourable to annexation, and that these had terrorized the majority, and that this party was composed of "foreigners, dwellers in towns, non-producers, place-hunters, deserters, refugees, land speculators, 'development men,' and pests of Transvaal society generally"; after stating that the Republic was quite able to defend itself, and was most eager to have its independence restored to her, Mr. Aylward strangely enough asserts, towards the close of the volume, that annexation was in itself desirable:—

"My argument, the argument of this book, the argument of the Boers, is not that their (the annexationists') policy was wrong in itself, is not that the means by which they hurried their plans into effect were in themselves grievous and oppressive, nor even that their apparently high-handed acts were cruel or calculated to arouse fierce opposition and burning indignation, but simply and solely that the reasons and arguments put forward in justification of those acts and that policy are false, untenable, and provoking. If the allegations about slavery and cruelty in the Transvaal had not been advanced; if the consent of non-existent majorities had not been pleaded in defence of an abstract wrong; if an inherent weakness that did not exist had not been urged as a plea in justification of an aggression that on its own merits stood, perhaps, in need of no justification, there would be less discontent in the Transvaal, and this book probably would never have been written. For the present discontent on the part of the South African Dutch the attempts at justification, far more than the annexation itself, or even the method of its accomplishment, are responsible. . . . As to the annexation itself, no important transaction of a similar character in modern history has been so ably, so peacefully, or so successfully carried out. Granting its necessity, presuming its expediency, Sir Theophilus Shepstone and his staff of annexationists have earned the most unqualified approval. The step seems to have been carefully thought out in all its details."

We have felt obliged to point out the glaring errors in this book. There are, however, some points upon which it is possible to agree with its author. There can be no doubt that annexation has, as the danger which caused its acceptance passed away, become unpopular. It is true that of the 8,000 freeholders nearly 7,000 have signed a petition against it, and that they now afford little, if any, assistance to our troops, which are defending them at great cost to this country—a thankless position. The wisdom of annexation may therefore be reasonably doubted, but it is an

accomplished fact, and will probably be followed up by the acquisition of Delagoa Bay, the natural port of the Transvaal.

*Fairy Tales: their Origin and Meaning, with some Account of Duellers in Fairyland.* By John Thackray Bunce. (Macmillan & Co.)

MR. BUNCE's contribution to the literature of fairy tales deserves the attention of earnest believers in the "solar myth." His book, he modestly remarks, "does not pretend to scientific method," being merely a revised expansion of "a course of Christmas Holiday Lectures." But it bears manifest witness to its author's touching devotion to a somewhat unpopular cause. No blighting suspicion seems ever to have crossed his mind that the stories which children love can possibly be anything but pure and unalloyed nature myths. None of the doubts which have been thrown upon the resolution into atmospheric elements of at least some of their number, under at all events their modern forms, appears to have attracted his attention or disturbed his faith. Just as they are, in spite of their modern speech and costume, notwithstanding all the changes which time and travel have brought about, the heroes and heroines of our fairy tales at once reveal to his eyes their celestial origin, and stand clearly forth as the rosy dawn, the radiant sun, and their kindred phenomena or forces. Not that he seems to have arrived at these conclusions by means of his own unassisted genius. He appears to have contributed to his book nothing from his own stores. But from the works of various comparative mythologists he has brought together a number of explanations of fairy tales, of which the following may be taken as fair specimens.

He has not the slightest doubt that Cinderella's story is that of the sun and the dawn:—

"Cinderella, grey, and dark, and dull, is all neglected when she is away from the sun, obscured by the envious clouds her sisters, and by her stepmother the night. So she is Aurora, the dawn, and the fairy prince is the morning sun, ever pursuing her to claim her for his bride."

To him Little Red Riding Hood is not merely a modern modification of an old fable, deprived by its introducers into polite society of all mythological features. To his eye every incident in her tragic history is fraught with mythical significance.—

"Little Red Riding Hood is the evening sun, which is always described as red or golden; the old grandmother is the earth, to whom the rays of the sun bring warmth and comfort; the wolf—which is a well-known figure for the clouds and blackness of night—is the dragon in another form: first he devours the grandmother, that is he wraps the earth in thick clouds, which the evening sun is not strong enough to pierce through; then, with the darkness of night, he swallows up the evening sun itself, and all is dark and desolate."

In the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, when the hero's mother, on hearing that he has sold her cow for a hatful of beans, throws her apron over her head and weeps, she seems to Mr. Bunce to be thus represented as "figuring the night and the rain." In dealing with the Sleeping Beauty he appears to have combined the two explanations generally adopted by interpreters of his school, the one of which resolves her magic slumber into the nocturnal sleep of the earth, while

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the other makes it typify the apparent death of nature during the winter. According to Mr. Bunce, "the maiden is the morning dawn, and the young prince, who awakes her with a kiss, is the sun which comes to release her from the long sleep of wintry night." On the other hand, he has bestowed upon Polyphemus only half of the explanation usually allotted him, ignoring the identification of the single eye of the Cyclops with the solar orb, and merely stating that—

"Polyphemus is the storm-cloud, and Odysseus stands for the sun. The storm-cloud threatens the mariners; the lightnings dart from the spot which seems like an eye in the darkness; he hides the blue heavens and the soft white clouds—the cows of the sky, or the white-fleeced flocks of heaven. Then comes Odysseus, the sun-god, the hero, and smites him blind, and chases him away, and disperses the threatening and the danger, and brings light, and peace, and calm again."

Much as the reader may admire the devotion of Mr. Bunce to his creed, it is impossible not to fear that his book will inflict a fresh blow upon the cause which he desires to support. That many myths are based upon atmospheric phenomena, and that such divinities as are addressed in the Vedas may readily be resolved into forces of nature, no reasonable person will be inclined to deny. And that a large proportion of the stories which have been preserved, in different parts of the world, by oral tradition, may be traced back to myths, will also be conceded by most critics. But when a writer asserts that even the simplest incidents in our nursery tales are fraught with mythical meaning, that an old woman who throws her apron over her head and weeps is thereby "figuring the night and the rain," and that a girl cannot don a red cloak without representing the red "evening sun," he is not likely to inspire universal confidence. It is more probable that he will bring into discredit the whole system of interpretation on which he relies. It is true that he can appeal for the confirmation of his ideas to the authority of scholars of undisputed erudition. But in their books such fantasies as we have mentioned occupy only a secondary place. Much may be forgiven to a writer who generously bestows rich stores of novel information; but a mere compiler, who has nothing of his own to offer, and who drags into unnecessary light the caprices of learned men, is not so easily to be pardoned.

Before parting with Mr. Bunce's book, it is only fair to state that, by dint of borrowing from Prof. Max Müller, he has been able to compile a readable account of "The Aryan Race: its Characteristics, its Traditions, and its Migrations." And with the help of Sir George Cox, Sir George Dasent, Mr. Baring Gould, Mr. J. F. Campbell, and a few other well-known writers, he has produced a series of sufficiently attractive portraits of "Dwellers in Fairyland." He has even contrived, not without ingenuity, to give an appearance of learning to his book which will probably lead to its being regarded by youthful minds with more fear than delight.

*The Life of John Wilson, D.D., F.R.S.* By George Smith, LL.D. and C.I.E. With Portrait and Illustrations. (Murray.)

THE Rev. Dr. Wilson first left England for Bombay in September, 1825, and died there

in December, 1875, after forty-seven years' service as a missionary. He was a native of Tweeddale; a man of stalwart frame and strong constitution, of the most energetic and inquisitive mind, and the greatest simplicity, determination, and benevolence of character. He underwent at the University of Edinburgh the severe course of training which the Kirk of Scotland, followed in this respect by the Free Kirk, wisely imposes on all its ministers, and, arrived in India, he devoted himself, with the resolution characteristic of his nature, to antiquarian and philological research. He almost at once became recognized throughout the East as a learned and laborious Oriental scholar—a philomath of the old-fashioned style. In his later days, when his tall figure became gaunt and bent, and the fashion of the clothing of his youth began to look obsolete and quaint, he always reminded one, whether in the pulpit or in society—and everywhere his discourse and his manner were the same—of a mediæval College Syndic. He was devoted to his missionary calling, to scholarly research, and every work of civil and political philanthropy; and living among Anglo-Indians, who were proud of their fellow-countryman, and among natives of all nations of the East, who recognize in every devout man, whatsoever may be his dogmatic belief, a true teacher of God, he became a great social influence in Bombay, and, as years went on, a moral power in both Church and State in India. He was, in fact, regarded as the spiritual bishop of Bombay, and he exerted a most beneficent influence over the young men, most of them from Scotland, who came out to the mercantile houses there, and on those who under the old system of patronage entered the service of the Government. With many of them he kept up a regular correspondence. He was as a father to every studious and serious-minded Englishman in Western India. He took the lead in every movement of educational and municipal improvement in his time, which covered the whole period of transition during which Bombay rose from the position of a mere military station to become, after the Mutiny, the second city (second only to London) of the British Empire. In political matters of the highest moment he was constantly consulted, not only by the Government of Bombay, but by the Supreme Government at Calcutta. It was most desirable to secure a biography of such a man, and it is fortunate that the preparation of it has been placed in the hands of Dr. George Smith. The probabilities were that it might be written at all. English society changes so constantly in India, that few of Dr. Wilson's friends and personal acquaintances possessed a sufficient knowledge of the forty-seven years of his missionary career to write his life, however otherwise qualified for the task. But Dr. Smith, a countryman of Dr. Wilson, and trained at the Edinburgh University, had been familiar from his youth with Wilson's name, and character, and reputation. As editor of the *Calcutta Review* for some time before the Mutiny of 1857, and as editor of the *Friend of India* and *Calcutta Correspondent* of the *Times* for many years after it, he was constantly called on to discuss Dr. Wilson's conduct as a missionary and public man in Western India, and to record his researches as an Orientalist and antiquary. He has also

an intimate knowledge of contemporary Indian history, and a sympathetic interest in all Indian educational and religious controversies of the last fifty years; and, being a matured writer, no one could possess a higher title to undertake 'The Life of John Wilson.' He is to be congratulated on the happy issue to which he has brought his arduous labour, and if his companion 'Life of Alexander Duff'—Dr. Wilson's fellow-missionary of the Free Kirk of Scotland in Calcutta—is as successful as the present volume, Dr. Smith will have gained for himself a high position as an Anglo-Indian biographer. The difficulties of his work he has surmounted with the greatest skill. He is not, indeed, faultless, for he has condensed the events of a distinguished and almost unique life of fifty years into a single octavo volume of 600 pages, and the personal narrative is brief, often almost to baldness; but it is impossible to praise too highly the clear, dramatic, and instructive form in which Dr. Smith has arranged multitudinous and diversified incidents. He has maintained throughout the vital unity of the volume, which reads as if it had been written at one sitting, without wearing or abatement of the writer's interest in it. Yet Dr. Smith has presented us not only with the life of Dr. John Wilson, but the social and civic history of Bombay, while he has a word to say of every one of Dr. Wilson's contemporaries, European and native, who has in any way made a name for himself in Bombay and Western India. It is a biography which will be widely read, and when Dr. Smith may have to publish a second edition he will make it almost perfect if he is able to enlarge it by the addition of correspondence, or other remains throwing yet fuller light on Dr. Wilson's personal life and character and views and opinions. It would be difficult to improve on the form of the book.

It is impossible to attempt anything like a general summary of the life of Dr. John Wilson, and we shall refer only to such incidents of it as have a direct relation to immediate and recent public events. He lived all his life in the most confidential relations with Europeans and natives of all classes, native princes and chiefs, and distinguished European travellers, scholars, merchants, and officials, with governors and viceroys. We find, accordingly, that his remarks, in his correspondence with intimate friends, on Indian political questions are of the greatest pertinence and weight. In a letter to his Edinburgh agent, of October 3rd, 1838, he writes:—

"I am by no means satisfied of the justice of our invasion of Afghanistan. . . . That we should send an army to watch the movements of Russia, Persia, &c., I fully admit. That we should dethrone Dost Muhammad Khan I stoutly deny, on the ground of my present information."

When, three years later, Dost Mohammed was a state prisoner on parole in Calcutta, where he might be daily observed, Dr. Smith records, at his sunset devotions on the Courser, as the gay world rolled past, Hyder Khan, his heir apparent, was a frequent visitor of Dr. Wilson at Ambrolie, the Free Kirk Mission House in Bombay. Writing on the 1st of March, 1841, to Dr. Smyttan, in Edinburgh, Dr. Wilson says:—

"We have lately had presented to us a hydro-oxygenic microscope, which cost 600 rupees. It has been several times exhibited; Prince Haidar Khan, the son of Dost Muhammad, is coming to



see it in a day or two. He and I are great friends. Should his family ever again be restored to sovereign power, it will, I think, be favourable to missionary operations. He sat two hours with Anna and me the other day."

So grateful was Dost Mohammed to Dr. Wilson for his kindness to his son when in captivity, that he declared he would keep the passes open for a visit from the *Padre Sahib*, however disturbed the frontier might be. Col. Lumsden, in his "Confidential Report" on the Candabar Mission of 1856, states that he found Hyder Khan always well inclined to the British Government, because of "the manner in which he was treated while a prisoner in Hindostan." He was full brother of Shere Ali, the present Ameer. How completely might the whole tenor of our relations with Afghanistan during the last twenty years have been changed had Hyder Khan lived to succeed his father! On the 2nd of December, 1842, Dr. Wilson was confidentially addressed by Mr. Willoughby, Secretary to the Bombay Government, who asked him if, when in Kattywar, he had visited the temple of Somnath, and could afford any information regarding its present condition and management. Mr. Willoughby adds, "The notification that is about to be published regarding the gates of this pagan temple will astonish the whole Christian world." The next day young Bartle Frere, the Private Secretary to the Governor, Sir George Arthur, wrote preferring the same request, and Dr. Wilson's memorandum of the 5th in reply, which was read before he submitted it to Government by Prof. Westergaard, who was then staying with him in Bombay, completely destroys the myth of Mahmood having carried away the gates of Somnath to Ghazni on his return from the invasion of India, A.D. 1026-27. It was afterwards proved, on perfectly different testimony, that the gates were never in Somnath. Dr. Wilson's memorandum concludes with a strong protest against Lord Ellenborough's proposed "Proclamation of the Gates":—

"From his Lordship's late exemplary recognition of Divine Providence in connexion with our success in Afghanistan and the preservation of our troops, and the bounty of God towards our native subjects in general, I am sure that his Lordship would revolt from inadvertently originating any measure which would appear to him to be in any way derogatory to our holy Faith or adverse to that gradual divorcement from superstitious observances which is now becoming apparent throughout the bounds of our Eastern Empire. I respectfully beg you to ask the Governor to pardon my adventuring on a single allusion extending beyond the inquiries of your letter. It proceeds from one who has no common desire to witness the continuance of the distinguished prosperity of my Lord Ellenborough's administration—the blessing of peace which, under God, his Lordship has been so instrumental in earning for us, and his express determination nobly to consecrate the principal resources of India to its own improvement and social and moral elevation."

When the Mutiny broke out, Dr. Wilson exerted himself nobly to moderate the suspicions and ill feeling which the Europeans began to feel against the natives. He clearly recognized from the first that it was, in Western India at least, only a mutiny, and that the people were nowhere disloyal. He writes on the 6th of May, 1851:—"The plots of the Satara and Kholapore nobles are of three or four years' standing, and have had no connexion with the mutiny, except in so far as one set of evil men

has encouraged another set of evil men." Lord Elphinstone, writing to Dr. Wilson in the spring of 1857, observes:—

"Your account of the feelings of the Mussulman population is very satisfactory. I have never given in to the idea of insurrection and conspiracy, which seems to haunt many people. As long as the native army are faithful there is no fear of a popular rising; and although unfortunately we have had one or two cases of mutiny in the Bombay army, I do not see any signs of general defection."

The fact is that in Bombay only the men in actual correspondence with the disaffected in Bengal, and the educated who could read the newspapers, knew anything of the existence of the Mutiny. Five miles out of Satara, the ryots in the fields knew nothing of the palace plots within that famous Mahratta capital. Thanks also to Lord Elphinstone's coolness and vigilance, and to the ability and energy of Mr. Charles Forjett, the Deputy Commissioner of Police in Bombay, and the success of Sir Le Grand Jacob's measures in the Mahratta country, every hostile attempt in the West of India was crushed at its beginnings—in one or two instances, perhaps, before they were fairly detected. In Bombay, all through that terrible year of 1857, scarcely a dog might lurk for a moment at the corner of a street but by Mr. Forjett's leave. Not a few at the Mohurram festival of that year were seized almost with a panic terror of the Mussulmans; but Mr. Forjett called together the leading members of that community. They were addressed with great energy by Mr. Forjett and Col. Birdwood in the native language, and when the reports of the gathering were published the following morning, the public was at once reassured. On the 15th of December, 1858, a meeting of the inhabitants of Bombay was summoned by the Sheriff to consider the propriety of erecting an Economic and Natural History Museum with pleasure gardens, to be styled "The Victoria and Albert Museum and Victoria Gardens," at which the head of the Hindu community, the late Hon. Juggonathjee Sunker Sett, presided. The united Hindus, Mussulmans, and Parsees determined to show that they appreciated the advantages of British rule. The crowd raised 50,000 rupees on the spot.—

"But far more important," writes Dr. Smith, "was this language in the mouth of its Chairman: 'No empire has been more consecrated by time, none more perfectly consolidated, none more great in intellect, more overwhelming in power, more infinite in resources; and yet it is not on its awful might that it is founded, nor on the force of its naval and military greatness, but supremely in the devotion of its people.'"

Among the pupils of Dr. Wilson's school were two Abyssinian youths—"my sons in the Gospel," he styles them. On their return to Abyssinia, the King sent Dr. Wilson two lionesses, which attracted crowds of curious natives to the "compound" of the Mission House at Ambrolie. These youths, Gabru and Maricha Warka, the sons of a high officer in the Abyssinian army, who himself brought them to Bombay, grew up to be the chief councillors of Kassai, Prince of Tigre, by whose advice he steadfastly supported the British in their contest with Theodore, in spite of the urgent overtures of Egypt and Turkey. Lord Napier of Magdala, in frequent telegrams and despatches, acknowledged the loyal services of these youths. Very pathetic is it to read Maricha's letter to Dr. Wilson, from Aden, at

pp. 592-3. Chuma, the heroic lad who accompanied Livingstone through the seven years of his greatest journey of African exploration, and safely delivered to Cameron the remains now resting in Westminster Abbey, was also one of Dr. Wilson's pupils. Susi and Jacob Wainright were pupils of the Nassick Mission, and the story of their devotion, told by the Rev. Mr. Horace Waller in 'The Last Journals of Livingstone,' is a testimony to the value of Christian missions in the East.

Dr. Wilson's last public appearance in Bombay was at a Kirk meeting in April, 1875. When the Prince of Wales reached Bombay the aged missionary was lying on the bed from which he was never more to rise. After one of the popular receptions of the Prince, Sir Bartle Frere remarked to the lady who attended Dr. Wilson's last moments, "How I have missed him from his place to day, but when one thinks of things as they really are, there is no one on earth more to be envied at this moment than Dr. Wilson." And when he was dying there were gathered to his side those who were more to him than prince or viceroy, governors or scholars: Hindus, who, though not Christians, had come from the extremity of the Presidency to ask his dying blessing, and, when he was dead, begged his body that they might bury it; and a Mohammedan family greatly attached to him, who brought their own *hakeem* to see him, pleading that he who had healed the Shah of Persia might do the *Padre Sahib* good; and two Parsees, Dhunjeebhoy and Shapoorjee, his first and last converts to Christianity. At five in the evening of the 1st of December, 1875, in the seventy-first year of his age, he breathed his last.

A Parsee gentleman a few days afterwards, speaking of him, said, "Dr. Wilson did not make me a Christian, but I hope I am a better man for having known him." This is the true moral of John Wilson's forty-seven years' missionary work in Bombay, where the memory of his name will remain a living and a quickening moral force long after the generations which saw his face and revered him for the manly simplicity and goodness of soul it reflected shall with him have passed away.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*Her World against a Lie.* By Florence Marryat. 3 vols. (S. Tinsley & Co.)  
*Near the Lagoon; or, Scenes in the States of La Plata.* By the Author of 'Ponce de Leon.' 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)  
*Sans Famille.* Par Hector Malot. 2 vols. (Paris, Dentu.)

It is impossible to say much in praise of Miss Florence Marryat's last novel. The story is in itself unpleasant, and is mixed with a good deal of talk, delivered chiefly by a literary lady, who does also the comic business, about the iniquity of the English law in depriving mothers of the custody of their children after the age of seven years—which, by the way, Miss Florence Marryat supposes to be the age at which they cease to be infants by law. It does not seem to have occurred to her that the wife is not always the hard-working breadwinner, nor the husband the useless spendthrift. Of course the story is all told in the present tense, and equally of course is full of blunders. Miss Florence Marryat should know



that Berwick is not the same as Berwickshire; that people do not go to drink at "the bar" in a foreign hotel; and that "whatever" and its kindred compounds are not used interrogatively in good English. Indeed, if the style of her Mrs. Hepzibah Horton's writing was at all like her conversation, it is hard to know what editors' and publishers' thoughts would have turned to her name, as it is said they did, in moments of emergency. A worse offence is involved in the description of such a scene as that where James Moray prevents his wife from going to her sick child, whose cry she hears in the next room. There are some human affections so sacred that the attempt to make capital out of them in order to obtain a sensational chapter for an ephemeral novel strikes us as being most repulsive.

'Near the Lagunas' is a story of domestic life near the chain of lakes which run from Chascomus for thirty miles and then join the Salado river. These lakes divide two of the most flourishing states of the province of Buenos Ayres—one the cradle of sheep-farming, and the other noted for its realized wealth. The work may be called a nocturne, or an arrangement in black and white, of life at the Plate, of which the chief excellences are known only to the author. It abounds with characters, and with incidents which promise well, but end in ways that are disappointing, and is written in a language that must be expressive to those who understand it. When an author says that he once saved his life by cutting the girth of his recazo, that the picaros had a fight among themselves for his silver spurs, that then he threw away his tirador, but luckily his horse was a pingo, and that the pursuers who were after him were such matrangos that their boleadores never reached him, his readers feel not only bewildered but also abashed in the presence of one whose learning is so vast. It is true that he devotes a dozen pages to the explanation of his provincial words and phrases—quite a new feature in novel-writing—but even this glossary is not quite adequate to the reader's requirements. He will turn anxiously to know what a pajonal can be, and he is put off with the explanation that it is a tract of marshy ground covered with paja. This is almost as lucid as the writer's description of a ghost. It is, he says, "An imagination, beautiful as a dream, or as a gleam of summer lightning and as transient. Vividly real while it lasted, but vanishing in the moment of its birth. When gone, a memory, and nothing more." Another sentence is marked with more vigour, although spoiled by the author's inveterate habit of talking over his readers' heads: "I say, to-day, what bosh they do write in these magazines. I wonder you waste your money on such rubbish." Through his own lack of painstaking and reverence for the art of providing pleasure for those who are accustomed to find their pastime in books, readers who get so far will be compelled to say that not only in magazines do men "write much bosh."

M. Malot's novels do not improve. The first of the two volumes of which 'Sans Famille' consists is filled with the adventures of a monkey, three dogs, and two showmen, one of the dogs being certainly the hero. In the second volume, after a long digression, in which the sufferings of the entombed Welsh colliers are translated from the English journals by way of "padding," the younger showman

comes to his rights, and proves to be no less a person than Mr. Milligan, the head of a family of great antiquity, seated for centuries at "Milligan Park," a square stone castle with a round tower at each angle, which, according to M. Malot's geography, appears to stand on the banks of Southampton Water. M. Malot cannot be expected to know that the English criminal classes do not speak of "policemen" by that name, but he might at least correct his proofs, and "fin dog" for "fine dog," in almost the only English phrase which figures in his book, is an example of a carelessness in this respect too common in France.

## CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

*A Wayside Posy gathered for Girls.* By Fanny Lablache. Illustrated. (Griffith & Farran.)

*Stories from Virgil.* By the Rev. A. J. Church. (Seeley, Jackson & Halliday.)

*Harty the Wanderer.* By Fairleigh Owen. (Griffith & Farran.)

*The Day of Wonders.* By Mrs. M. Sullivan. (Same publishers.)

*Left Alone.* By Francis Carr. (Same publishers.)

*Vain Ambition.* By Emma Davenport. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

*Children's Hour.* By Charles Bruce. (Same publishers.)

*Golden Childhood.* (Ward, Lock & Co.)

*Dora's Boy.* By Mrs. E. Ross. (Strahan & Co.)

*Aunt Judy's Christmas Volume.* (Bell & Sons.)

It is pleasant to meet with another graceful book of tales by the author of 'Starlight Stories told to Bright Eyes and Listening Ears.' The 'Posy' is composed of six stories, relating respectively to Chickweed, Ivy, Mignonette, Wild Pansy, Sweetbriar, and Poppy. The tendency of all the tales is good and pure, and the most fastidious parents may safely present this pretty book to their girls with the certainty that from its perusal they will derive nothing but good. 'The Wayside Posy' will be promoted to the shelf of honour in the girls' bookcase, with Grimm's Fairy Tales, the 'Water Babies,' 'Alice,' Hans Christian Andersen's books, and all the other well-thumbed favourites that help to add romance to the most prosaic surroundings in the waking hours, and to weave sweet fancies with the dreams of childhood.

The success of the 'Stories from Homer,' published last Christmas with illustrations after Flaxman, has induced the author of that charming little book to produce a companion volume of stories from the *Æneid*. The present work is, indeed, at one great disadvantage, as compared with its predecessor. In Homer Mr. Church had but to select episodes and translate them from the original into graceful English. Virgil, on the other hand, is a writer who relies largely for his effect upon mere literary artifice, upon abundant little *tour de force* of style, which are seldom or never reproducible. These stories from Virgil therefore are not quite a translation, but a very close paraphrase, in clear and simple English. "My chief aim," says the author, "has been to represent to English readers the narrative, the interest of which is, perhaps, scarcely appreciated." The latter remark we have found to be more strikingly true than we at first anticipated. The advance of scholarship has, in fact, disclosed so many nice difficulties in the *Æneid*, that it has become wholly impossible to read it fast in the original, and the mind grows accustomed to dwell more upon a curious ablativus than on a picturesque situation. We are sure that many readers, who are familiar with their Latin Virgil, will be astonished by happy touches which escaped them before, but appear more prominently in Mr. Church's easy narrative. To all others, both old and young, the book will have a yet higher interest and value. It is illustrated with designs by Pinelli. These are printed, as in the 'Stories from Homer,' in red and buff upon a black ground, in imitation of ancient vase-paintings.

'Harty the Wanderer' is a pretty story of a boy's adventures and sufferings at sea, to which he has not "run away" in the usual fashion. He is kidnapped and carried off by two ruffians, who find him lost in a wood, whither he has strayed one fine afternoon when he played truant for the first time in his life. A fit of childish naughtiness and disobedience scarcely called for such severe retribution at the hands of either legal or poetical justice: yet the boy's sorrows and sufferings arose from that one fault. The tale is interesting, and, as the author relents at last and all ends well, young readers will feel grateful at having their hearts set at rest after much anxiety, for at one time there seems little hope for poor Harty.

'The Day of Wonders' is one of the works that owe their existence to the "Wonderland" discovered by little Alice. It is a pleasant book of its kind, and has the special merit of giving curious and entertaining pictures of the life and ways of insects, birds, and sundry animals. Master Harry takes his holiday and sees his wonders under the guidance of a box of letters of the alphabet, which become animated, and show their pupil all manner of curious creatures and give him a good deal of information in natural history. Each letter takes it in turn to show and tell him something worth knowing, according to the initial. It is an entertaining book; useful for children, but not so fascinating to grown-up people as the one with which little Alice bewitched them.

'Left Alone' is not a pleasant story. Phillis Maitland is not an attractive young woman, nor one whose example could be safely followed. She is wise in her own conceit, and she follows her own opinion and is sweetly perverse and obstinate. 'Left Alone' is too much of a novel for young girls, and would be rather dull for older readers.

'Vain Ambition' teaches, by an unpretending little story, that boys and girls can be far more useful and helpful if they do what is within their reach, than if they neglect the daily routine of their duties to achieve some end far beyond their powers.

In the 'Children's Hour' the author's similes taken from nature will not always bear criticism; and to find the moral counterpart of each in the hourly incidents of a child's life is more than can be reasonably expected. No doubt the advice given is very good. Yet it is a charm in a child's life to love beautiful flowers and creatures for their own sake, and to show that spontaneous gladness which is so inherent in young life.

'Golden Childhood' consists of two volumes bound in one, full of delightful pictures, stories, and puzzles, which cannot fail to charm and delight all young readers.

'Dora's Boy' is one of Messrs. Strahan's "Books for the People," and belongs to the Sunday series. It is a pretty religious story, quite readable either on Sunday or Monday. The teaching is unexceptionable.

'Aunt Judy's Christmas Volume' for the present year contains news that will be regretted by all her readers, great and small, and by her friends, who are as numerous as her readers—Mrs. Ewing is ill; so ill that she was unable to complete her story, 'We and the World,' and her doctors have forbidden her to do any work at all for the present. There are hopes held out that she may be so far restored to health as to continue her interrupted story early next year. She has the earnest and selfishly sincere good wishes of all who have read the first portion of 'We and the World.' It is extremely interesting, and breaks off at a point where all readers will be anxious to hear more. The present volume contains many good tales and papers entertaining and useful, and will be a welcome gift wherever it finds its way.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*René Descartes, his Life and Meditations*, by R. Lowndes (Norgate), will be found useful by beginners in philosophy. Although perhaps too much has been made of Descartes' independence of previous thought, yet there is no doubt that we can

trace all modern speculation directly or indirectly back to him. A study of Cartesianism is therefore necessary for the understanding of philosophical problems from their historical side, an aspect which has become especially prominent in England of late years. With this end in view, Mr. Lowndes has translated the 'Meditations,' to which he has prefixed a short sketch of the earlier history of philosophy, abridged from Kuno Fischer, and appended a commentary which gives succinctly the treatment of Descartes' problems by later thinkers, especially Kant. The reader is thus enabled to form some idea of the position of Descartes in the history of speculation. Besides this, Mr. Lowndes has given the best account we know in English of the life of the soldier-philosopher. No originality has been aimed at, and some superficiality has not altogether been avoided (e.g. Spinoza's influence has been unduly neglected), but the whole book is written in an untechnical and piquant style, which makes it more interesting and instructive than many a book of far greater pretensions. We consider it well adapted for a popular introduction to the historical study of philosophy.

THE New Shakspeare Society's books for this year have been issued this week to the members. They are: 1. Part I. of the *Transactions*, 1877-9, with an Appendix; a reprint of the unique three leaves of W. Wager's 'Cruel Debtor,' 1566, two in Mr. W. B. Scott's collection, and one in the British Museum. 2. Part II. of Mr. Furnivall's 'Harrison's Description of England in Shakspeare's Youth, A.D. 1577-1587,' with a photogravure reproduction of the north of Cheapside on a procession day in 1638; a lithograph of Shakspeare's Roads to London; woodcuts of Canterbury in 1588, and Cambridge about 1590; extracts from Howes, Busino, De la Serre, &c., on London in 1591-1638; and a paper on the Bankside, Southwark, and the Globe and other theatres there, by Mr. William Rendle. 3. Dr. Grossart's edition of Robert Chester's 'Loves Martyr, or Rosalins Complaint,' 1601, with its Supplement, containing Shakspeare's 'Let the Bird of lowest lay,' &c. In the last-named book Dr. Grossart contends that the poems of Chester, Shakspeare, &c., celebrate the love of Queen Elizabeth for Essex. The Committee have given notice that they are not responsible for the opinions expressed by editors in the Society's publications.

THE *Waverley Dictionary*, by May Rogers, is somewhat similar to the 'Dickens Dictionary' that appeared some time ago, and like it is due to American enthusiasm and energy. The book contains lists of the characters of each of Sir W. Scott's novels, and the chapters in which they appear, a description of each character illustrated by quotations from the novels, and an analysis of the contents of each story. So far as we have examined it, and we have tested it in many places, the book seems, barring a few misprints, accurate, and the task has been performed with judgment. The publishers are Messrs. Griggs & Co., of Chicago, U.S., but Messrs. Black should lose no time in reprinting this excellent book of reference. It may be suggested to them that in the reproduction the historical characters might be distinguished, by the use of say small capitals, from those that are purely fictitious.

MR. J. R. KING's translation of *Cicero's Fourteen Philippic Orations*, which Mr. Thornton of Oxford publishes, was possibly suggested in the first instance by some Oxford Examinations, but it is worthy of a larger sphere of usefulness. English readers who care enough for the classics to study them in translations have hitherto had few opportunities of judging of Cicero's political rhetoric. Mr. King, therefore, has done good service in translating these Philippics, which, beside their transcendent literary merits, have also the greatest historical value. The translation is forcible and fluent, and, so far as we have compared it with the original, accurate. The accuracy, however, is distinctly of the Oxford, not the Cambridge kind.

MR. NIMMO has done well in reprinting Mr. Laurie's translation of the 'Life of Frederick

Perthes,' originally published many years ago by Mr. Constable. The reprint is in one volume. The same publisher sends us *The Treasury of Modern Biography*, compiled by Mr. R. Cochrane, but it is difficult to understand the exact object of the work, nor is the reader enlightened by being told "that the human mind naturally desires to know something regarding those who are marked out by great qualities in any department of life, by goodness or great attainments and achievement." There is some interesting matter in the volume, but the editor's taste is not discriminating.

UNDER the title of *Ueberzeugungstreue*, Dr. L. Haller has published a *bearbeitung* of Mr. John Morley's work 'On Compromise,' to which he has prefixed a lengthy introduction. It is published at Hanover by C. Rümpler.

MR. E. PEACOCK has published a lecture on *Scotter and the Neighbourhood* (Hertford, Austin & Sons), delivered in the Scotter Reading Room, and an excellent example of how local history may be made interesting and intelligible to a local audience.

THE *Ninth Annual Report* of the Free Library Committee of the Borough of Wolverhampton speaks of continued progress. The lending and reference libraries show an increase, the evening classes are better attended than ever, and the collection at the museum has received additions.—The *Report of the Free Libraries at Manchester* also betokens prosperity. The reference library has been frequented by a daily average of 258 readers since its removal to its new quarters.

THE Company of Stationers have forwarded to us the *British Almanac* for 1879 and the *Companion to the Almanac*. The most interesting article in the 'Companion' is that by Mr. Axon on Public Libraries in America. The same Company send us *Gilbert's Clergyman's Almanac*, and *Whitaker's Clergyman's Diary* for 1879, a neat and convenient little volume.

It is interesting, as a proof of the activity of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, that a translation, in three stout volumes, of the late Dr. Alzog's *Manual of Church History* should come to us from Cincinnati. The translation is the work of Dr. Pabich and Prof. Byrne. The book is well printed and illustrated with maps, and it ought to meet with a warm reception from English-speaking Catholics, if they are as enlightened as their American cousins. Alzog was a man justly esteemed as a theologian, but his *Lehrbuch* is too learned and too frank to please extreme partisans, and we doubt if the translation, though sanctioned and encouraged by American bishops, will be well received by Cardinal Manning. Messrs. Lockwood & Co. are the London agents for the work.

WE have received from Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. the annual volume of *St. Nicholas*, an excellent magazine.

DR. ISALAH LUZZATTO has just published a detailed bibliography of his father's (the late Samuel David Luzzatto, of Padua) posthumous articles and essays as well as letters written at various periods to a number of Jewish scholars.

THE fourth volume of the *Beiträge zur Kunde der indo-germanischen Sprachen*, edited by Prof. A. Bezenberger, is dedicated to Prof. Benfey, of Göttingen, as a "Festschrift zur Feier seines fünfzigjährigen Doctorjubiläums." It contains contributions by Profs. Leo Meyer ('Die homerischen Vaternamen und einige verwandte Bildungen'), Th. Nöldeke, Georg Böhler, Aug. Fick, J. Budenz, J. Wackernagel, A. Bezenberger ('Homerische Etymologien'), and Th. Zachariae.

WE have on our table *Arrows in the Air*, by Rev. H. R. Haweis (Kegan Paul).—*The Secret of Success*, by W. H. D. Adams (Hogg).—*A Hindu Gentleman's Reflections respecting the Works of Swedenborg* (Speirs).—*Undeveloped Resources of Turkey in Asia*, an *Essay*, by C. E. Austin (Ridgway).—*Claudius*, by Mrs. R. K. Causton (Hatchards).—*Seaward's Narrative of his Shipwreck*, by J. Porter (Nimmo).—*The Morning of Life*, Vol. IV. (Sunday School Union).—*The Young Rebels*,

by A. R. Hope (Sunday School Union).—*George's Temptation*, by E. Leslie (Sunday School Union).—*The Infant Zephyr*, by B. Clarke (Sunday School Union).—*The Young Cragsman*, by R. Richardson (Edinburgh, Oliphant & Co.).—*Leaves from the Tree of Life*, by Rev. R. Newton (Nimmo).—*The History of a Lifeboat*, by R. Rowe (Nimmo).—*Guatemozin, a Drama*, by M. MacDonald (Lippincott).—*Dogma, Doubt, and Duty, a Poem*, by C. Hoare (Ashton & Mander).—*He would be a Soldier, a Comedy*, by F. M. K.—(Dublin, Gill & Son).—*Modern Science Unlocking the Bible* (Bush).—*The Confessions of St. Augustine*, a new translation (Rivingtons).—*Elijah and Elisha*, by F. M. Fearnley (Bagster & Sons).—*St. Paul at Athens*, by C. Shakspeare (Kegan Paul).—*Commentaries in Scholia Aeschylus Medicea*, by F. A. Paley (Bell).—*Observations sur les Instincts de l'Homme et l'Intelligence des Animaux*, by H. Gay (Paris, Fischbacher).—and *Filosofia della Letteratura Francese nel Medio Evo*, by G. Salvioli (Modena, Dalla Società Tipografica). Among New Editions we have *The History of England, A.D. 1800-1815*, by H. Martineau (Bell).—*Scottish versus Classic Music*, by W. G. Coutts (Edinburgh, Higgins).—*The Ranger's Lodge*, by R. M. Kettle (Weir).—*Swiss Family Robinson*, by H. Frith (Ward & Lock).—*Ultimate Reconciliation and Subjection of all Souls to God*, by Rev. A. R. Symonds (Hamilton & Adams).—and *Jerusalem Delivered*, by Rev. C. L. Smith (Harris).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Theology.*  
Hutcheon's (Mrs.) *Glimpses of India and Mission Life*, 3/6 cl.  
Littlewood's (Rev. W. E.) *Bible Biographies*, 16mo. 3/6 cl.  
Morris's (J. W.) *I Believe, or the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds Considered in Meditation*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Newman's (J. H.) *Selections adapted to the Seasons of the Ecclesiastical Year*, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.  
Patton's (Rev. W.) *Jesus of Nazareth*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Philippi's (F. A.) *Commentary on St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans*, translated by Rev. J. S. Banks, Vol. 1, 10/6 cl.  
Sinclair's (Rev. W. M. D.) *The Psalms, the Authorized Version in the Original Rhythm*, 4to. 6/ cl.  
*Fine Art and Archaeology.*  
Ravenshaw's (J. H.) *Gaur, its Ruins and Inscriptions*, edited by his Widow, photographic illustrations, folio. 73/6 cl.  
Stevenson's (R. L.) *Edinburgh Picturesque Notes*, folio. 18/ cl.  
Van Dyck's *Sketches, 1699-1846*, engraved by E. Mitchell, 7/6 cl.  
*Poetry.*  
Baill Ormond and Christabel's *Love*, by Author of 'Lays of Ind,' cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.  
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*History and Biography.*  
Abbey's (C. J.) and Overton's (J. H.) *The English Church in the Eighteenth Century*, 2 vols. 8vo. 38/ cl.  
Alzog's (Rev. J.) *Manual of Universal Church History*, trans. by Rev. F. J. Pabich and Rev. F. S. Byrne, Vol. 1, 7/6 cl.  
De Losings (Bp. Herbert), *Life, Letters, and Sermons of*, by E. M. Goubrun and H. S. Monod, 2 vols. 8vo. 30/ cl.  
*History of the Reformation in Germany and Switzerland*, chiefly by Dr. K. R. Hagenbach, translated by E. Moore, Vol. 1, 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Hook (W. F.), *Life and Letters of*, by W. R. N. Stephens, 2 vols. 8vo. 30/ cl.  
Marshall's (J.) *Annals of Yorkshire*, 3 vols. 12mo. 6/ each, cl.  
Motley (J. L.) *A Memoir*, by O. W. Holmes, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
O'Flanagan's (J. R.) *The Irish Bar, comprising Anecdotes, Bonnets, &c.*, cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.  
Pascoe's (C. E.) *Dramatic List Record of Principal Performances of Living Actors and Actresses*, cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.  
Pennafather (Rev. Wm.), *Life and Letters of*, edited by Rev. R. Braithwaite, 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Russo-Turkish War (The), edited by Capt. H. M. Rozier, 2 vols. 4to. 42/ cl.  
Turner (J. M. W.), *Life of*, by P. G. Hamerton, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.  
Wellington (Duke of), *Life of*, by E. Waite, 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
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Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*, with Notes by B. H. Kennedy, 6/ cl.  
Nicolson's (W. M.) *Classical Revision of the Greek New Testament*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Parker's (F.) *Tracts on the Greek Language*, Nos. 8, 9, 10, 2 cl.  
Thackeray's (Rev. F. St. J.) *Exercises on the Irregular and Defective Greek Verbs*, 8vo. 2/ cl.  
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*General Literature.*  
Adventures of the Bodley Family, by Author of 'The Dream Children' &c., illustrated, 4to. 5/ cl.  
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Seguin's (A.) The Black Crusoe, roy. 8vo. 8/ cl.  
Trollope's (A.) Chronicles of Barsetshire, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Verne's (J.) Dick Sand, the Boy Captain, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

NOTES FROM PARIS.

THE French Academy has elected M. Taine by an almost unanimous vote, and the public thinks this quite natural. The stranger it seemed that the dogs of M. Thiers should come from the lips of a violent and clumsy enemy of the French Revolution, the more logical and even fortunate is the choice of a learned, distinguished, and original writer to fill the *fauteuil* of commonplace M. de Loménie considered. Note also that M. Taine had, properly speaking, no competitor, for M. Édouard Fournier, who received four votes, is only a third-rate pundit, a critic without influence, a mere bookworm.

Poor Academy! The time is long ago passed when one of its most eminent members used to say of it:—"Its elections are criticized, but it takes comfort on seeing they are none the less coveted." People are beginning to covet them no more. Is it not singular, for instance, that three weeks before the date fixed for the choice of a successor to M. Dapsanloup the literary world does not know the names of the candidates? Perhaps there are as yet no candidates, although there has been some vague talk about the Bishop of Angers, M. Freppel, and about the Archbishop of Paris, M. Guibert. Will M. le Duc d'Audiffret Pasquier, President of the Senate, again take his place in the ranks? Very possibly. It was he, as I have before told you, who, in a letter to the perpetual secretary, wrote "Académie" with two c's, in order to prove clearly that his candidature was that of a *grand seigneur*. Who knows if, after two centuries and a half of existence, the Academy may not die out for want of candidates, as the *Revue des Deux Mondes* threatens to perish for want of writers just when it counts the greatest number of subscribers?

This most tiresome of reviews has within the last few days amused Paris greatly. One of its most considerable contributors, M. Saint René Taillandier, an Academician, committed one of those celebrated blunders which make the public say, "It is certainly the *Bévue des Deux Mondes*." Here are the facts. All educated men know why the first representation of 'Britannicus' did not fill the theatre. Like Terence of old, whom his fellow citizens used to leave in the lurch to go and see bear-fights, Racine experienced on that day a serious competition. The frequenters of the pit went in crowds to the Place de Grève, where a Marquis de Courboyer, far from famous in history, was beheaded. If Courboyer had been only a villain he would have been hanged, but as a gentleman he had a right to the axe. A chronicler of the epoch, Edme Boursault, alluding to this circumstance, familiar to everybody, relates that the success of the performance of 'Britannicus' was injured "par le spectacle du Marquis de Courboyer, qui ce jour-là justifiait publiquement qu'il était noble." Now M. Saint René Taillandier, who does not know all about it, translated Boursault after a fashion of his own, and wrote,

"A chance spectacle, nowadays we should say a *conference*, competed in a formidable degree with the Hôtel de Bourgogne. A certain Marquis de Courboyer had promised, I do not know from what motive, to give a public justification of his titles of nobility, and all the shopkeepers of the Rue Saint Denis, who were usually constant attendants at the performances of the Hôtel de Bourgogne, had this time preferred to go to the marquis." The transmutation of a condemned criminal into a lecturer by one of the sages of the Sorbonne, who occupies the chair of Saint Marc Girardin, amused Paris for some days. The mistake was pointed out with infinite humour by M. F. Sarcey; it made the round of the press; and you may imagine how people laughed at the learned professor and the infallible *Revue*. M. Charles Buloz, the editor of the *Revue*, was the only man who did not relish the joke; and he thought to avenge himself by saying that Sarcey merely criticized the *Revue* from spite; that he had gone and asked Buloz *père* to appoint him to Gustave Planché's vacant post; and that that gracious old gentleman had replied, "On ne remplace pas Gustave Planché." But Sarcey, who has not only replaced but effaced Gustave Planché, has taken the trouble to answer Buloz's son:—"Your Planché died in 1857, when I was at Grenoble, a humble Professor of Logic. I did not come to Paris till 1859. I never solicited the honour of writing in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. I even formally refused when overtures were made to me to do so." The *Revue des Deux Mondes* is, therefore, beaten all along the line; yet people continue to subscribe to it, taking care never to read it.

You know by name, at any rate, our Société des Gens de Lettres, because it was this society which had the honour of inviting to the Literary Congress the best English writers. It is a numerous corporation, and now respectable, since it dates from 1837; but its founders were all the great novelists of that golden time. It is busy at this moment revising its statutes, which French courts did not find correct, and which have given rise, in more than one instance, to a lawsuit. At the same time this society, which is quite non-political, keeps up courteous and cordial relations with the Government. On the 30th of November last, for the first time for forty years, the President of the Committee had the good fortune to entertain at his table the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Public Instruction, and the four-and-twenty representatives of the Society. The dinner was extremely gay: the men of state and the men of letters seemed greatly pleased with one another, and I believe that a few such evenings would suffice to settle in friendly fashion certain irritating questions, such as that of the stamp of the colportage. It is an old remnant of the censorship, which only serves to vex authors and to compromise the Government.

Englishmen familiar enough with our language to read the old master of the sixteenth century will be much surprised to learn that we have not yet set up a statue to Rabelais. But this omission is going to be repaired twice over, for the city of Tours has resolved to place Maître François opposite Descartes, and Chinon wishes not to lag behind; she, too, will have her Rabelais. A committee has been formed at Paris to furnish to the zealous little town the means it lacks. I shall speak again of this matter, for we count a little on the intelligent liberality of English Pantagruelists.

EDMOND ABOUT.

'THE ART OF BEAUTY.'

November 10, 1878.

THE judging awards to the books of the world has so occupied my time during the past year in Paris that I hardly know what has been doing at home; but, upon looking over a batch at the club, I came upon a volume, entitled 'The Art of Beauty,' by Mrs. Haweis, bearing upon its title-page the date 1878, and the words "all rights reserved." Is it possible that the lady imagines these words only apply to foreigners? for in the book in question I find six figures copied exactly

(indeed, I believe they are *cliches* of my blocks) from the fourth edition of 'Madre Natura; or, the Moloch of Fashion,' a little social essay that was very favourably noticed by you upon its appearance, and since by the public.

At page 50 of the lady's book of beauty will be found a female figure, showing "the natural position of the organs," and another of "the deformed position of the organs." Now, as these drawings were made by myself, and corrected by no less an authority than my good friend Prof. John Marshall, F.R.S., whose grand work on 'Anatomy for Artists' we all know, I feel they may have a little value, that in courtesy ought to have been acknowledged. The 'Art of Beauty' is said to be "illustrated by the author," who has found my text more *mobile* than the diagrams, which she has not only spared herself the trouble of re-engraving, but produced as her own; they are my property, and I am astonished that any publisher should so forget his trust as to allow of their appropriation thus. LUKE LIMER.

THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

YOUR issue of the 23rd ult. contained an account of the annual meeting of the above Society which I presume came from the proper authorities, and I beg therefore to ask for a short space in your columns to give a few facts which I feel persuaded the members and even some of the Council cannot be aware of.

The income of the Society is stated to be 1,055l. Now the only source from which this sum can be derived is from the annual subscriptions of the members; these, as given in your report, amount to 606, but from these must be deducted forty-nine who have compounded for their subscriptions, and thirty-five who are honorary members, reducing the number of paying members to 522. Some of these are supposed to pay two guineas, but at the outside these cannot amount to more than 109 (the number admitted to the Society last year); these figures would give the Society an income of 650l. to 700l., viz., 109 at two guineas, and 413 at one guinea. The expenditure in your account is not given, but it was stated at the meeting that there was a balance in favour of the Society of 19l.; this, on the figures given in your report, would show an expenditure of 1,036l.; it is therefore due to the members, I submit, that an explanation of these figures should be given. Rule VI. states that "The Council shall not incur any obligations beyond the annual income of the Society," and my object is therefore to try and obtain a satisfactory explanation.

Hearing at the meeting that a Report had been printed (but not issued) by the Council showing the Society to be extensively in debt, I and other members present (not unnaturally, I think) wished for some explanation; I even went so far as to suggest that a society enjoying an income of over 1,000l. on its own showing might adopt a very ordinary practice of societies, viz., to publish its accounts. Although supported in my endeavours by Dr. Harris, the Rev. Prebendary Irons, and others, the question was practically shelved, and the result remains that we are still ignorant of the state of affairs. I venture to ask in your pages, what I cannot obtain from the executive of the Society, (1) an explanation of the above figures; (2) what has been done with the four hundred and ninety guineas paid for life subscriptions, and the very considerable amount which must have been paid for entrance fees?

It seems incredible that Lord Aberdare could have had these facts and figures before him when he made the remark that the "questions put at the meeting appeared to be an organized attempt to disturb the harmony of the meeting."

I may mention that no report of anything that took place at the general meeting, with the exception of Lord Aberdare's address, is to be found in any of the accounts in the daily papers.

F.R. HIST. S.



GEORGE HENRY LEWES.

In George Henry Lewes, who died last Saturday, England lost one of her most distinguished *littérateurs*. The genus, never numerically strong among us, is now fast becoming extinct. "Division of labour," dear to all politico-economical hearts, is gradually making its way in the ranks of brain-workers as well as hand toilers, and more and more the truth is becoming known that it "does not pay" to be a *littérateur*, that is, a man cultivating the wide world of literature instead of a particular field. There is a rooted dislike in the English mind to people who attempt to master many things, aiming to be proficient in all of them. For a man to "get on," he must seek his groove, and stick to his groove. Woe to him if he leaves it, for soon he will be a "Jack of all trades." The term is unique, existing only in the English language. The "Admirable Crichton," it may be remembered, found fame abroad, and not on British soil. Probably the majority of Englishmen, if giving their frank opinion about the famed prodigy, equally great as poet, orator, linguist, dancer, horseman, and swordsman, would say that he was simply an admirable impostor. Such being the state of things, *littérateurs* are necessarily scarce in England, to the extent that there is not even an equivalent term for the French word. Needless to say that our "literary man"—as vague and vulgar as "medical man"—does not express it.

George Henry Lewes was born in London, on the 18th April, 1817. He received his education at a once famous school in Greenwich, the master of which enjoyed the not unmerited reputation of "grounding" his pupils thoroughly in classical knowledge. He left the school early to become a merchant's clerk, but the life did not suit him. He studied medicine for a short while. He then set out for a course of travels in Germany, chiefly with the object of studying the language and literature of the country, a pursuit then becoming the fashion, imported from our Northern Athens. Returning to England in 1839, he finally became, what he had long intended being, a contributor to the press and to periodical literature, ready to write on any subject that offered itself, but not more eager to spread knowledge by his pen than to gather it. Here was the true *littérateur*: no field too wide for research; no subject too deep for examination. Mr. Carlyle is hard upon the class, to which, nevertheless, he himself belongs: "The strangest regiment in Her Majesty's service, this of the soldiers of literature:—would your lordship much like to march through Coventry with them?"

So, for nigh thirty years, George Henry Lewes wrote—studied and wrote, even more studying than writing—a true "soldier of literature." Enlisting in the worthy band of Mr. Charles Knight, he began contributing numerous articles to the "Penny Cyclopædia," writing at the same time a great deal for the *Morning Chronicle*, and assisting in the editorship of an admirable publication, the *Classical Museum*, now little remembered. Gradually he extended the circle of his literary labours, and the *Edinburgh*, the *Westminster*, the *Foreign Quarterly*, the *British and Foreign*, the *British Quarterly*, *Blackwood*, *Fraser*, and this journal received contributions from his pen. It took some time to realize his darling ambition to put his name to a book. He achieved this at last through Mr. Knight, who brought out, in 1846, through the medium of his "Weekly Volumes," a series of essays, partly before published, entitled "A Biographical History of Philosophy." This work having proved a success, the author republished it, greatly altered, in 1857, in a "library edition," and again in 1871, with still more alteration, under the new title of "History of Philosophy from Thales to Comte." Less successful than his first was Mr. Lewes's second venture in the book market. In 1847 he published, with Messrs. Chapman & Hall, "Ranthorpe: a Tale." The one-volume novel, written in somewhat high-

flown style, fell nearly still-born; some jokes in the papers about "rant" killed what little life there was in it. Still Mr. Lewes had the courage to launch in the following year, 1848, through Messrs. Smith & Elder, another novel, this time in three volumes, entitled "Rose, Blanche, and Violet." It also was unsuccessful, as was likewise a small volume called "Spanish Drama: Lope de Vega and Calderon," published at the same time. It was followed, in 1850, by "The Noble Heart: a Tragedy." It is doubtful whether it found readers, it is certain it did not find actors. The year before, in 1849, he had brought out a volume of biography, "The Life of Maximilian Robespierre; with Extracts from his Unpublished Correspondence," which to the publishers was also "a tragedy."

Thus far, notwithstanding the success of his first book, the name of George Henry Lewes was barely known to the public, but it became so through his next publication, the "Life and Works of Goethe." He had begun this book, the result partly of his sojourn in Germany, in 1845, but it was not until ten years after that he was able at last to find a publisher for it. Like thousands of other bundles of MSS., some of them worthy of a better fate, the "Life of Goethe" travelled from one commercial patron of literature to another, until finally Mr. David Nutt, of the Strand, took pity on it, and gave it to the reading world. The success was not immediate, but it proved solid. A second edition was brought out in 1864 by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., and since then the reputation of the work has been steadily increasing. There can be little doubt that the literary fame of George Henry Lewes must rest chiefly on his "Life of Goethe."

The list of books already cited is far from exhausting the published works of Mr. Lewes. In 1853 he issued a volume entitled "Philosophy of the Sciences"; in 1858, "Seaside Studies at Ilfracombe, Tenby, Scilly Isles, and Jersey"; and in 1859–60 two volumes of "Physiology of Common Life." A different course of inquiry and literary action became visible in the next published works, "A Chapter from Aristotle," issued in 1864, and "Problems of Life and Mind—First Series: the Foundation of a Creed," two volumes brought out in 1875. These two works scarcely added to the reputation of the author.

The restless activity of Mr. Lewes led him, at various times, to engage in the establishment of new periodicals. Thus he became one of the founders of that very clever but most unsuccessful weekly the *Leader*, of which he was the literary editor from its commencement, in 1849, till July, 1854. Eleven years later he helped to usher into the world the *Fortnightly Review*, assuming the editorship and retaining it till he was succeeded by Mr. John Morley. However, he always remained a contributor, and it was for the *Fortnightly* that he wrote the last paper which appeared publicly under his name. It is the first article in the June number of the present year, entitled "The Dread and Dislike of Science," and full of passages highly characteristic of the author. "In the struggle of life with the facts of existence," it begins, "science is a bringer of aid; in the struggle of soul with the mystery of existence, science is a bringer of light." The conclusion come to is, that "when science has fairly mastered the principles of moral relations, as it has mastered the principles of physical relations, all knowledge will be incorporated in a homogeneous doctrine rivalling that of the old theologians in its comprehensiveness, and surpassing it in the authority of its credentials. . . . Then, and not till then, will the conflict between theology and science finally cease; then, and not till then, will the dread and dislike of science disappear."

Mr. Lewes often told his friends that the most desirable end of a well-spent life was a painless death. The end came to him after a very short illness at his house, the Priory, North Bank, Regent's Park, where he had spent many years—years, he declared himself, of great happiness.

## Literary Gossip.

LORD CHELMSFORD, it seems, at the time of his death, was engaged in writing a work containing many amusing reminiscences and anecdotes of the English bar. He had invited several of his colleagues to assist him with their recollections.

MR. THOMAS CARLYLE was eighty-three years old on Wednesday last. As usual, the day brought him numerous presents, and many were those who called at 24, Cheyne Row, to bring personally their birthday congratulations. These visitors he did not see, owing to his advanced age and the damp, unpleasant weather of the day. However, we rejoice to learn, on the best authority, that Mr. Carlyle's health is excellent, and that there is reason to hope that he will yet see many birthdays.

THE Life of Cobden, founded upon materials furnished by his representatives and friends, to which Mr. John Morley is at present devoting his leisure, is well advanced, and will, it is expected, appear at the beginning of May. Mr. Morley was chosen for the task on the recommendation of Mr. John Bright.

M. OLLIVIER has made less progress with his proofs than he had expected, and therefore his work on the relations of Church and State will not be ready till January.

THE Bodleian Library has lately acquired the collection of Malone's correspondence, which will make an important addition to the Malone Library, left by him to the Bodleian.

FATHER LAW, of the Oratory, one of the editors of the *Douai Diaries*, which we reviewed lately, has seceded from the Church of Rome.

WE hear through the *Manchester City News* that a movement is being made to establish a Ruskin Society in the north of England, the object being to promote the circulation and public reading of Mr. Ruskin's works. Communications on the subject are to be addressed to Mr. Bailey Walker, Cheadle, Cheshire.

WE understand that the articles on the Report of the Rhodope Commission which have lately appeared in the *Spectator*, and are about to be republished, will be introduced by a preface containing some new matter.

THE Cambridge University Library Syndicate have protested against the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Copyright that the privilege of obtaining copyright books without payment be withdrawn from the Universities. They require not less than 3,000*l.* a year extra to maintain the library in a satisfactory state of efficiency even under the present circumstances. It is pointed out that the privilege possessed for upwards of two hundred years is of special value in that a library so formed is perfectly general in character, unaffected by partialities in selection; moreover the public will practically gain nothing by the refusal of the few copies thus assigned.

MR. GRANT DUFF has printed, for private circulation only we believe, a new brochure on the Central Asian question in the form of a letter to a friend.

PROF. A. W. WARD will contribute a volume on Chaucer, and Mr. Henry James, jun., one on Hawthorne, to Messrs. Macmillan & Co's

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deservedly popular series of "English Men of Letters," edited by John Morley.

At the Institute for the Advancement of Plain Needlework classes are now held for the benefit of teachers of both Board and Voluntary schools. The first course is on plain and advanced darning—English, French, and German methods—patching, &c. It is proposed after Christmas to hold classes for teaching cutting out simultaneously, to be followed by others for teaching plain needlework, knitting, &c., according to the system employed in Ireland, Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg for the past thirty years. There are more than a hundred persons at present taking lessons. Classes are also held at Watford in connexion with the Institute. The headquarters of the latter are situated in Westminster Bridge Road.

MRS. RUSSELL GURNEY has signified her intention of presenting to Girton College, Cambridge, the sum of 1,000*l.* for the foundation of a "Russell Gurney" Entrance Scholarship, in memory of her late husband, who was one of the earliest and most valued friends of the College.

DR. CRAWFURD TAIT RAMAGE died, on the 29th ult., at Wallace Hall, Dumfriesshire, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. Dr. Ramage was the author of 'Beautiful Thoughts from Latin Authors,' &c., and a new work from his pen, entitled 'Bible Echoes in Ancient Classics,' was noticed in last week's *Athenæum*.

SEVERAL weeks ago we stated that there was but one copy of the printed list of original members of the Athenæum Club known to exist. Other clubs are even less fortunate. For instance, the only printed record of the first year of the existence of the Reform Club merely contains the names of the Trustees and of the Committee, and a list of the rules. Two copies only of this document are extant. The first Trustees were the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Mulgrave, the Earl of Durham, the Right Hon. Edward Ellice, M.P., General Sir R. Ferguson, M.P. The members of the first Committee were H. A. Aglionby, M.P., Alexander Bannerman, M.P., Walter Campbell, M.P., William Clay, M.P., John Crawford, Edward Divett, M.P., Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Edward Ellice, jun., George Grote, M.P., Joseph Hume, M.P., Henry Kingscote, Charles Shaw Lefevre, M.P., Denis Le Marchant, William Marshall, M.P., Sir William Molesworth, M.P., James Morrison, M.P., Daniel O'Connell, M.P., O'Connor Don, M.P., Barry O'Meara, Hon. C. A. Pelham, M.P., Edward Pendarves, M.P., Edward Romilly, Sutton Sharpe, E. J. Stanley, M.P., Robert Stewart, M.P., Edward Strutt, M.P., Sir Hussey Vivian, Henry Warburton, M.P., H. G. Ward, M.P.

THE important newspaper and printing business which belonged to the late Mr. G. P. Bacon, of Lewes, and included the copyrights of the *Sussex Advertiser*, *Surrey Gazette*, and other provincial papers, has been purchased, together with the freehold premises, by Mr. Alexander Rivington. The agents who arranged the transfer were Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co.

IN place of the three deceased members of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, namely, MM. Naudet, Garcin de Tassy, and De Slane, the learned body elected last Friday, M. Schefer, director of the École

Oriente des Langues Vivantes, M. Foucart, the Greek palæographer, and M. Barbier de Meynard.

DR. DZIAZKO, head librarian of the University Library at Breslau, is preparing an edition of Donatus's Commentary on Terence.

MR. W. DE GRAY BIRCH writes to us to correct a misconception in our paragraph of last week respecting the forthcoming 'Dictionary of Illuminations,' and requests us to state that Mr. H. Jenner is joint author of the work with himself, and is responsible chiefly for that portion of the book which relates to pictures of religious, hagiological, or ecclesiastical subjects.

THE forthcoming number of the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* will contain, among other papers of interest, 'Notes on Welsh Archaeology,' by Prof. J. Rhys, of Oxford; 'The Roman Station at Caergwrle,' by Mr. W. T. Watkin; 'The Ancient Laws of Wales,' by Mr. C. H. Compton; 'The Cistercian Abbeys of Cymmer and Basingwerk,' by Mr. E. P. L. Brock; 'On Mistletoe,' by Mr. H. S. Cumming; 'The Palmyrene Monument of Regina at South Shields,' by Mr. W. de G. Birch; and a review of the Wisbech Congress, by Mr. T. Morgan.

MR. J. B. SELKIRK, author of 'Ethics and Aesthetics of Modern Poetry,' has nearly ready for publication a new edition of 'Bible Truths with Shakspearean Parallels.'

MESSRS. W. COLLINS, SONS & Co. have in preparation a set of thirty large plates illustrative of Old Testament history, and designed to display the references and facilitate the study of Rawlinson's 'Historical Illustrations of the Old Testament.'

AMONG new French publications are a treatise on French Parliamentary usages, by one of the Secretaries of the Chamber; a volume of reprinted essays by M. Cuvillier-Fleury, including one on Madame Récamier; 'Le Roman d'un Peintre,' a biography of Jean Paul Laurens, the painter of the picture of the Austrian Staff before the body of Marceau; another new novel by M. E. Daudet, and the third volume of a treatise on the architecture of public schools in France, Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland, by M. F. Narjoux.

A CHEAP periodical for boys, intended to furnish wholesome reading, and called *The Boy's Own Paper*, will appear in January. It will be conducted by the editor of the *Leisure Hour*.

## SCIENCE

### GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THE *Geographical Magazine* will, we understand, cease to appear after the publication of the December number, and will be henceforth merged in the new *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*, by which body the goodwill of the former journal has been purchased. This magazine had its origin in *Ocean Highways*, and has during the last six years done much to popularize the study of geography and aid the cause of science.

The chart, which has recently been received by Mr. Oscar Dickson, of Prof. Nordenskiöld's sea voyage from Europe to the mouth of the river Lena, in Siberia, will be reproduced next month in Dr. Behm's *Mittheilungen*. This chart will be extremely interesting to geographers, as it appears from the letters just published in Copenhagen that the present charts and maps of the northern shores

of Asia are very incorrect. Lieut. Hovgaard, of the Royal Danish Navy, one of Nordenskiöld's party, writes that, before reaching Cape Chelyuskin, the northernmost point of Asia, they were constantly passing islands not laid down on the maps, while the entire northern promontory lies much further west than hitherto supposed. His remarks seem also to imply that the remarkable eastward enlargement of the Eastern Taimyr peninsula made by the late Dr. Petermann in 1873 was (like his prolongation of the north-east coast of Novaya Zemlya) unwarranted. According to the same letter, Prof. Nordenskiöld intended to shape his course for Fadyeyevskoi (Thaddeus) Island, one of the new Siberian group, stay there and explore for a few days, and then sail for Japan, where he expected to arrive about the end of October. The non-receipt of later news makes it probable that the vessel has been hemmed in by ice at some point on the exposed coast eastward. Mean time, we are glad to hear that translations of the letters and a copy of the chart have been received by the Royal Geographical Society. The brief extracts of the former that have appeared in England show them to be of high interest.

The lecture delivered on the 29th ult., at the United Service Institution, by Capt. T. Hungerford Holdich, R.E., 'On Military Map-making,' assumed much the aspect of a discussion on the relative advantages of the plane-table and the prismatic compass for surveying purposes. An exhaustive discussion ensued, and a variety of testimony was elicited, the whole being brought to a conclusion by some useful and cogent arguments put forth by the Chairman, General Sir J. A. Lintorn Simmons, K.C.B. The general opinion seemed to be that while the plane-table was an instrument of considerable accuracy and convenience for rapid surveying, and one which was hardly recognized at its full value in any country except India and France, its cumbersome nature made it undesirable that it should be adopted to the entire exclusion of the prismatic compass, and that in secret reconnaissances in a strange or hostile country its use was almost out of the question. At the same time, full credit was given to its superior accuracy and to its suitability for the extensive operations of the Indian topographical surveys and for ordinary military map making.

Signor Cora, the editor of the Italian geographical magazine *Cosmos*, has undertaken to defray the expenses of a fellow-countryman, Renzo Manzoni, who is at present engaged in the exploration of Yemen. Between September, 1877, and April, 1878, Signor Manzoni explored the route between Aden and Sana, bringing back with him a route survey, a plan of Sana, numerous photographs, and a journal containing hypsometrical observations. On the 15th of June last he once more started for Sana, travelling this time by way of Tais, Dhobaneh, Mokha, Zebid, Hodeida, and Menakha. On the 1st of August he arrived at Sana, and he proposes to extend his explorations on the north to the frontiers of Asyr, and in the east to Hadhrumaut. Fuller particulars are promised in the next number of *Cosmos*, and Signor Cora will then acknowledge the subscriptions received towards this expedition, which is to be conducted on a modest scale, but promises a rich harvest of geographical information.

### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Nov. 30.—*Anniversary Meeting*.—Sir J. Hooker in the chair.—Announcement was made that the finances of the Society are in a satisfactory condition, that within the year twenty-one Fellows on the home list and six on the foreign list had died, and that seventeen had been elected.—Among the subjects that fell within the scope of the President's address one will be regarded with surprise and satisfaction, namely, the abolition of the 10*l.* admission fee, and the reduction of the annual contribution from 4*l.* to 3*l.* This will be good news for all those who hope to attain to the distinction of F.R.S. in future. Considering the difference in the value of money, it is something more than a



return to the old practice under which the Fellows paid 2*l.* 12*s.* as their annual contribution, and of which the Rev. H. H. Baber and Sir Henry Ellis, who died in 1869, were the latest examples. The deficiency in the Society's income occasioned by these remissions will be made up by a special fund raised among the Fellows by contributions ranging from 5*l.* to 2,000*l.* Mention was made of that astronomical problem, the distance of the sun from the earth, and the means now available for solving it; of the discovery of satellites and planets; of solar and stellar spectroscopy; of Janssen's "wonderful photographs of the sun"; of the supposed existence of carbon and oxygen in the sun; and the "breaking up of the molecules of bodies hitherto regarded as elementary." Considering that botany has been Sir J. Hooker's life-study and pursuit, his sketch of the recent progress of botanical science could not fail to occupy an important part in his address. In this are comprised Count Saporita's 'L'Ancienne Végétation Polaire,' Dyer's 'Plant Distribution as a Field for Geographical Research,' Robert Hooke's 'Micrographia' and microscopical discoveries, the researches of Nägeli, Sachs, Strasburger, Burdon Sanderson, Kunkel, Munk, Schwendener, and Darwin. In closing his address Sir J. Hooker stated the reasons that induced him to resign the chair which during five years he has so worthily filled. They are the ever-growing pressure of his duties as Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew, and the obligation under which he lies "to complete scientific works, undertaken jointly with other botanists" before he was elected P.R.S. At the same time he is not of opinion that the presidential term for the Royal Society "should be either short or definitely limited."—After delivery of the address the medals were presented: the Copley to M. Boussingault; to J. A. Broun and Dr. Günther each a Royal Medal; the Rumford to M. Cornu; and to MM. Cailletet and Pictet each a Davy Medal.—M. Cailletet and Dr. Günther were present at the meeting, and received their medals in person; the others were kept away by age, ill health, and official duty.—The proceedings terminated with the election of Council and officers, in which no change was made in the list already published. Mr. W. Spottiswoode, who has held the post of Treasurer of the Royal Society since 1870, is now the President, and Mr. J. Evans (recently President of the Geological Society) is the new Treasurer. The personal and scientific character of these two gentlemen may be accepted as an assurance that the honour and dignity of the Royal Society will be adequately sustained.

**SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.**—Nov. 28.—Dr. W. Smith, V.P., in the chair.—A letter from Lord Carnarvon, addressed to the meeting, and dated Nov. 26th, 1878, was read by Mr. C. Knight Watson, Secretary. The Secretary also read the letter addressed by Lord Carnarvon to Lord Verulam, as chairman of the St. Albans Committee, on the 17th July last (see *Athen.*, August 3rd, 1878, p. 151).—An extract from the minutes of the Council, Nov. 26th, 1878, was also laid before the meeting, expressing the concurrence of the Council in the President's letter.—Mr. J. Neale proceeded to lay before the meeting some notes on the condition of the existing flat-pitched roof, from which it appeared that so far from being (as alleged in a resolution of the St. Albans Committee) in a "ruinous state," it only needed comparatively slight repairs to be made (as Mr. John O. Scott had himself reported to the Committee):—

31, Spring Gardens, June 25, 1878.

My dear Sir,—I understand that a further report, dealing especially with the western portion of the roof, is thought desirable. As this had already been dealt with by my father, I did not include it in my former letter. I have to-day been at St. Albans, and made myself fully acquainted with its condition. It had been most minutely examined previously by my father, and his assistant, who was with me to-day. Exact notes were taken of the state of each of the main beams, and the special treatment each required was determined on. I need not say that my father's object was twofold, to preserve the old roof as an interesting portion of the Abbey, and to render it sound and serviceable.

The rafters, purlins, and other minor timbers are in a fair state of preservation, and require about the usual amount of repair. Some of the tie beams, however, are in a bad condition, and need much more doing to them than those farther east. The treatment of each was laid down separately, scarfing, bolting together, and plating with iron being adopted as their varying defects suggested. *No doubt a sound roof would thus be obtained, but as so much has in some cases to be done, the question arises whether in these cases it would not be more satisfactory to substitute new oak tie beams.* The cost will be greater, but if the Committee should decide to do this I shall not feel disposed to raise any objection. There are in all seven tie beams which this applies to.

A few words are necessary to make what I have said about the ceiling clearer. In order to renew the joists and bearers which carry the boarding, and which are so defective, the boarding must be taken down; such parts as are thoroughly sound and of oak will be re-squared, and then supplemented by, I fear, a large proportion of new wood. The whole, when re-fixed, must be decorated afresh. This relates to the ten western bays, the remaining three having been already repaired and repainted.

Believe me, my dear Sir, yours very faithfully,

Rev. W. J. Lawrence. JOHN OLDRID SCOTT.

Mr. Neale's notes were illustrated by a selection from his very beautiful drawings of St. Albans to the large scale.—G. E. Street, Esq., R.A., proceeded to lay before the meeting an elaborate paper on the Roof. Before writing the paper he had gone to St. Albans, on Tuesday last, in company with Mr. E. Christian and Mr. A. Blomfield, and with the permission of Mr. J. O. Scott they had subjected the roof to the most thorough examination. The result of that examination he had embodied in the paper he was about to read to the meeting. Mr. Christian and Mr. Blomfield were present that evening, and he believed he might say that they all three went down to St. Albans with minds totally free from bias, and had returned in entire agreement as to the conclusions which they had formed. Mr. Street stated that they had opened and examined the existing flat roof at various places. He began by tracing the original scheme of the church, which had steep roofs of nearly uniform height on all its parts. In the beginning of the fourteenth century the choir walls were raised, and a flat-pitched roof erected on it. This at once destroyed the uniformity of the church on the exterior, and nothing short of the destruction of the choir chantry would allow of a return to the original lines. The eastern chapels were all also roofed with flat roofs. In short, after the thirteenth century the St. Albans architects evidently preferred flat roofs to steep ones, and made no scruple about introducing them. The existing flat roof on the nave Mr. Street showed, by comparison with other Hertfordshire work, as to the date of which there could not be any doubt, to be a work of probably about A.D. 1500, and he made the curious discovery that to a great extent it was constructed with rafters which had once formed part of a steep roof, and the mortices and tenons in which left no room for doubt as to the original design of this steep-pitched roof. He exhibited a drawing showing how this roof was framed, and, following the marks still remaining against the tower, maintained that it was impossible that such a roof could ever have had a parapet such as now exists in a more or less perfect state throughout the nave. He then described the existing flat roof, and stated that in a considerable part of this the old timber—all oak—was still in an admirable state of preservation, and expressed his entire agreement with a report made by Mr. John O. Scott in June last, to the effect that it would be quite possible to repair this roof in a perfect manner, and at less expense than that of a new fir roof, and at vastly less expense than the restoration of the original steep-pitched roof, which, if "restoration" was to be talked of, was the only real restoration possible. The old lead could be recast and relaid on the roof, and the repairs of it need not entail the destruction of much more of the painted ceiling, which has already been taken down and almost entirely destroyed by the contractor in the four western bays, where works are already in progress. He then pointed out that the

nave parapets are now in course of renewal, and said it was impossible that Sir Gilbert Scott could have contemplated the erection of a steep roof behind parapets, because this would be a state of things which, as he had shown, never before existed at St. Albans at any time. He asked whether any one had ever seen, and whether Mr. Scott would show them, the design of the fir roof which it was proposed to erect, in order that the public might judge whether in any sense it was a restoration of something which had once existed. The committee were on the horns of a dilemma. Either they were not going to restore anything old, or all the expense they had gone to on the parapets of the nave was a mere waste of labour and money. There is still time for amendment. The new roof is not commenced. The resolution to erect it must have been come to by people who had never examined the old roof, and who were under an entirely erroneous impression as to its state. No one would gravely maintain that a modern fir roof of ordinary construction could be as good a covering for St. Albans nave as a sound old one of very solid oak. He observed also that when the nave had been altered the transepts would have to be taken in hand, and pointed out that the height of the central tower above the roof would be reduced from seventy-two feet to fifty-two feet, to the great alteration of its present fine effect. Such successes as the raising of the south wall, the regroining of the aisles, the recovery from desecration of the eastern chapels, were noble evidences of restoration well done by a master of his craft; and it would be sad if the success of a great work were marred by a roof which it could not be believed that that master contemplated or approved of.—Mr. Christian and Mr. Blomfield followed, expressing their entire concurrence in Mr. Street's views, and Mr. White, who had made an independent examination of the roof, stated that he had arrived at precisely the same conclusion.—Mr. C. Barry, President of the Institute of British Architects, expressed an earnest hope that the St. Albans Committee might see their way to retracing their steps.—At the close of the discussion the following resolution, moved by Mr. Joseph Clarke, seconded by Mr. C. Barry, was carried *nem. con.*:—"After having heard the papers read by Mr. J. Neale and Mr. G. E. Street, R.A., and the discussion which followed, this meeting is of opinion that the existing roof over the nave of St. Albans can be rendered perfectly sound and serviceable, and that the proposal to substitute a high-pitched roof is, under the circumstances, very greatly to be deprecated, and opposed to the principles of all sound restoration. This meeting desires, at the same time, to thank the President of the Society, Lord Carnarvon, for his timely interposition to rescue a great national monument from the danger with which it was threatened, and which this meeting hopes it may not be too late to avert."

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.**—Nov. 27.—Sir P. de Colquhoun, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. C.F. Keary read a paper 'On the Earthly Paradise of European Mythology,' in which he showed, from the Middle Age legends, the evidence of a current of tradition concerning the earthly paradise, distinct from, and sometimes opposed to, the doctrines of orthodox Catholicism, and, therefore, a survival from heathen mythology. The peculiar features of the non-Christian legend pointed to an earthly paradise lying in the West, and only to be reached after a passage over the sea. Mr. Keary then proceeded to trace this belief among the chief European mythologies, and contended that a myth which once referred to the journey of the soul after death, coming in time to be treated in a more literal, and in some sense, more prosaic manner, gave rise to the story of an earthly paradise. The earlier myth of the soul's journey probably took a definite shape before the ancestors of the European races had migrated from their early home in Asia.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Dec. 3.—Mr. Abernethy, V.P., in the chair.—Twelve Mem-

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bers were elected: Messrs. W. Baxter, L. Clark, G. C. Cunningham, G. E. Gray, Jacob Higson, John Higson, W. Russ, A. Penny, jun., J. R. Rees, A. Macnab, W. H. Stubbs, and J. Swinburn.—A paper was read, 'On the Heating and Ventilating Apparatus of the Glasgow University,' by Mr. W. W. Phipson.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Dec. 2.—G. Busk, Esq., Treasurer and V.P., in the chair.—Dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley, Viscount Bangor, Dr. P. Black, Capt. R. Goff, and Mr. J. T. Rogers were elected Members.—It was proposed that a subscription be opened by the Members for the purpose of presenting to the Institution a bust of Mr. W. Spottiswoode, the newly elected President of the Royal Society, in recognition of his valuable services as Treasurer and subsequently as Secretary, on the occasion of his resigning that office.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 4.—Dr. C. W. Siemens in the chair.—Seventy-two candidates were elected Members.—A paper 'On Electric Lighting' was read by Mr. J. N. Shoolbred, and illustrations given by the inventors of the various electric lamps exhibited.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 2.—Mr. R. P. Splice, President, in the chair.—A paper, by Mr. J. Atkinson, 'On Apparatus for Utilizing the Waste Heat of Exhaust Steam,' was read.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Nov. 26.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—The Rev. J. Robbins was announced as a Member.—Mr. W. G. Smith exhibited a series of flint implements from the valley of the river Lea.—Mr. A. L. Lewis read a paper 'On the Evils arising from the Use of Historical National Names as Scientific Terms.'—The Director read a paper, by Prof. D. Wilson, 'On some American Illustrations of the Evolution of New Varieties of Men.' In the mingling of different races in America, so complex and varied, all subjected to the influence of climate and social habits, and all mingling in blood in a greater or less degree with the native red races, hybridity had resulted on a great scale. The process had already been developed sufficiently long to afford important indications of the evolutions of permanent hybrid varieties. A specimen is to be seen among the tribes of the half-breeds in Manitoba, as it were in the process of evolution; while sheltered within the remote Arctic regions man can be studied among the Esquimaux in conditions closely analogous to those which are ascribed to a post-pliocene, if not to a pre-glacial, period. In the abrupt collision of the civilized races of Europe with the American aborigines, it had always been taken for granted that the latter were doomed to inevitable extinction, and that the land would be peopled with the purely civilized races of the world. There is no question, however, that from an early date there have been intermarriages between European and American races. A growing feeling is manifesting itself in the United States and Canada that the Indian population is not doomed to extinction, that a much larger amount of healthy intermarriage and consequent absorption has existed than unobscuring critics had any conception of, and that the native Indian element is a factor in the population of the New World destined to exercise an enduring influence on the ethnical character of the Euro-American races.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.—Dec. 3.—S. Birch, Esq., President, in the chair.—Thirty-two new Members were elected.—Mr. T. G. Pinches read a paper entitled 'A new Fragment of the History of Nebuchadnezzar III.,' and the Rev. A. Löwy read a communication from Prof. W. Wright, entitled 'Notes on a Bilingual Inscription in Latin and Aramaic recently found at South Shields.'

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mos. London Institution, 8.—'Self-Defence among Plants,' Mr. F. Darwin.  
— Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.  
— Society of Arts, 8.—'Mathematical Instruments,' Lecture III, Mr. W. M. Williams (Cantor Lecture).

Mos. Medical, 8.—'Swedish Arctic Expedition,' 'Dutch Arctic Expedition,' 'Route for future Polar Discovery,' Mr. C. E. Markham.  
Tues. Anthropological Institute, 8.—'Finds in Midian,' Capt. R. F. Burton; 'Notes on Skulls from Midian,' Prof. R. Owen and Mr. C. G. Blake; 'Left-handedness,' Dr. H. Muirhead.  
— Photographic, 8.—'Emulsion Process,' Messrs. H. Cooper and L. Warnerke; 'The Platinum Process,' Mr. W. Willis.  
— Civil Engineers, 8.—'Discussion on Heating and Ventilating Buildings,' 'Railway Work in Japan,' Mr. W. F. Potter.  
Wed. Literature, 4.—Council.  
— Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.  
— Society of Arts, 8.—'Railways to Turkey and India,' Mr. Hyde Clarke.  
— Microscopical, 8.—'Ocellus sphaerici (a new species) and other Rotifers,' Dr. Hudson; 'New Microspectroscope without a slit,' Mr. F. H. Ward; 'Hoffman's New Form of Camera Lucida,' Mr. F. Crisp.  
Thurs. London Institution, 7.—'Wingless Birds, Fossil and Living,' Prof. W. H. Flower.  
— Historical, 8.—'Domestic Every-day Life, Manners, and Customs in this Country, Part IV, Dr. G. Harris; 'Life and Literary Remains of Vladimir Monomachus,' Rev. A. H. Writland.  
— Mathematical, 8.—'On Motion,' Mr. H. Perigal; 'Forms of Numbers determined by Continued Fractions,' Mr. S. Roberts; 'Graphic Construction of the Powers of a Linear Substitution,' Prince Camille de Polignac.  
Fri. Royal, 8.  
— Quekett Microscopical, 7.  
— Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.  
— Astronomical, 8.  
— New Shakespeare, 8.—'Times or Durations of the Action of Shakespeare's Plays,' Part II, Mr. P. G. H. Harris.  
Sat. Physical, 8.—'Condenser of Variable Capacity,' Mr. C. Boys; 'Differential Air Thermometer,' Dr. O. J. Lodge.

## Science Gossip.

MR. H. N. MOSELEY, F.R.S., Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and lately member of the scientific staff of H.M.S. Challenger, has in the press a volume entitled 'Notes of a Naturalist on Board the Challenger.' The book, which is to contain numerous illustrations, will shortly be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

THE first stone of the Sedgwick Memorial Museum at Cambridge will perhaps be laid within two years, for a Syndicate is at last appointed to select a site and obtain plans and to report before Midsummer next. The Committee of the Memorial Fund have 12,000*l.* in hand towards the erection of this Museum, but it is expected that the University will contribute a large sum in addition.

THE next number of the *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science* will contain an important paper by H. B. Brady, F.R.S., on certain forms of Foraminifera brought to light by the late Challenger Expedition. Some of the organisms described and figured are of the most singular and unexpected character, and the paper as a whole will give a tantalizing foretaste of the quality of one at least of the forthcoming great Challenger monographs.

ARRANGEMENTS are in progress to celebrate in some sufficiently important way next year at Penzance the centenary of Sir Humphry Davy's birth. This great chemist was born at Ludgvan, near Penzance, in 1778, and was educated and served his apprenticeship to a surgeon in that town.

AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ELECTRICITE is the name given to a society in Paris for encouraging all applications of electricity to industry. In some central quarter of Paris it is intended to open a permanent exhibition of apparatus, machines, &c., concerned in the production or application of electricity or magnetism.

PROF. ROSCOE, on Saturday, the 22nd of November, delivered a lecture at Pendleton Town Hall on 'The Sun.' The lecturer endeavoured to show, mainly on the evidence of Prof. Jevons, that between the period of the South Sea Bubble and the present time, 157 years, there had been fourteen periods of commercial crises, and these he endeavoured to connect with periods of sun-spot inactivity.

THE regulations for British exhibitors at the Australian Exhibition, 1879, have been approved. These, with the forms of application, are now obtainable from the Honorary Secretary of the London Committee, 3, Castle Street, Holborn.

THE *Journal* of the Franklin Institute for November is remarkable for the original and high character of several of its papers on mechanical science, especially on 'New Determinations of the Co-efficients of Friction of Lubricated Journals, and on the Laws governing such Friction,' by Prof. H. R. Thurston; and 'On the Driving-Power of Leather Belts,' by J. H. Cooper, which contains Laborde's original paper,

'Researches on the Principle of the Employment of Belts for transmitting Power.'

## FINE ARTS

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE SEVENTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN. 5, Pall Mall East, from Ten till Five.—Admittance, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE THIRTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES WILL OPEN ON MONDAY NEXT, the 9th of December.—Gallery, 53, Pall Mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

CABINET PICTURES IN OIL, Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—THE TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admittance, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* ROBERT F. McNAIR, Secretary.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS BY ARTISTS OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOLS IS NOW OPEN, at THOMAS M'LEAN'S GALLERY, 7, Haymarket.—Admission, including catalogue, 1*s.*

DORE'S GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM,' and 'THE BRAZEN SERPENT,' the latter just completed, each 30 by 22 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Caiaphas,' &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1*s.*

## GIFT-BOOKS.

THESE showy volumes have again accumulated on our table. Among the more valuable is the handsome table-book called *Switzerland, its Mountains and Valleys*, described by W. Raden (Bickers & Son). It belongs to the numerous class of which 'Le Tour du Monde' forms the type, and consists of well-written light letter-press, profusely illustrated by brilliant and solid woodcuts of striking scenes, buildings, and costumes. Though rather mannered and frequently somewhat mechanical and cold, there is no denying the attractiveness or the estimable qualities of these woodcuts. We can venture to name a few of them as good: 'A Shepherd of the Meglis-Alp,' p. 4; a picturesque view of 'Lake Constance,' p. 6; 'Embroidress of Appenzell,' a richly illuminated interior, p. 13; the capital lake view of 'Romanshorn,' p. 47; 'The St. Gothard Road,' p. 158; 'Accident to a Goat-herd,' facing p. 318; 'Lausanne,' p. 344; 'Gorge of the Trient, Valais,' p. 370. In short, the book is radiant with views of hills, valleys, mountains, passes, glaciers, lakes, rocks, woods, peaks clad with snow, cataracts large and small, rivers, piers, towns, chalets, churches, streets, cliffs, towers, convents, mills, boats, and castles, vineyards and bridges.

*Nature Pictures*, illustrations by J. H. Dell, contains short poems and scraps of longer poems, with numerous cuts of no great value or interest, but attractive in some degree from their simplicity and the care and delicate touch of the draughtsman, who draws well and gracefully, although timidly. One of the better views is called 'The Pond on the Common,' p. 137, a bright, rich, and faithfully rendered effect. 'The Lake and the Rainbow,' p. 107; 'The Heath,' p. 89; and 'The Midday Rest,' p. 65, are also commendable. The cover is gaudy and inartistic. The publishers are Messrs. F. Warne & Co.

*Child Life in Japan* comes to us from Messrs. Griffith & Farran, and contains Japanese child-stories by M. Chaplin Ayrtton, with illustrations drawn by Japanese artists. The volume is full of animated stories and adorned with capital woodcuts of many a quaint device, full of spirit, spontaneous and rich in humour, and charming in innumerable points of fun and character, action and "out-landish" graces. For instance, 'Snow-balling,' two queerly-clad urchins at play, is an admirable design; *riant* fun is the leading element of these little masterpieces. The letter-press is not equal in spirit to the cuts, but nevertheless it is entertaining enough to deserve reading.

*Rab and his Friends*, by John Brown, M.D. (Edinburgh, Douglas), is a reprint with additions and omissions, of woodcuts formerly published. We like the story much better without the illustrations than with them, though some of them are tolerable. The book is neatly printed, and the binding is unobjectionable.—*The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*, illustrated in colours by A. Richard, is

published by Messrs. F. Warne & Co., and contains some very good and some very bad "illustrations": the best of the former is that which shows how Munchausen carries off the chaise on his shoulder; another good one shows the Baron's ascent to the moon.—Messrs. G. Routledge & Sons publish *The Beauties of Shakespeare*, by Dr. Dodd, with illustrations by Sir J. Gilbert, Mr. B. Foster, and others. It makes a pretty table-book. The cuts are of the kind which our readers know very well as associated with the artists' names, spirited, but excessively ornate; graceful, but rather artificial; animated, but essentially commonplace, and, above all, and always, theatrical.

Of babies' books we have the following, all published by Messrs. G. Routledge & Sons: 1. *Little Wide Awake*, which contains a capital German design and inferior English ones—it is a story-book for little children, by Mrs. S. Barker; 2. *The Child's Delight*, by Mrs. A. Acton; 3. *The Child's Picture Scrap-Book*, a capital book of its kind; 4. *Little Wide Awake Pictures*, described by Mrs. S. Barker.

We were mistaken in conjecturing (*Athenæum*, No. 2665) that some of the cuts in 'Picturesque Europe' are identical with those in Wey's 'Rome,' &c. Messrs. Cassell assure us that all the illustrations in their handsome publication were expressly executed for the work under Mr. Whympere's direction. We hasten to apologize for the mistake.

#### WINTER EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THIS is an extremely interesting gathering, although, as usual, the distinctive character which it was originally proposed to give to the second annual exhibition of this Society is practically ignored. Indeed, the proportion of "sketches and studies" is so small as not to be worth mentioning. On the other hand, there are a few pictures of high importance, although several eminent painters have not contributed. The chief defaulters are Messrs. Alma Tadema, G. P. Boyce, Holman Hunt, J. W. North, S. Palmer, and F. Shields. The leading works are by Mrs. Allingham, Mr. B. Bradley, G. Dodgson, G. Fripp, A. Goodwin, A. W. Hunt, H. S. Marks, H. Moore, F. Powell, and H. Wallis.

The place of honour is filled with *A Sextett during the Terror* (No. 90), by Mr. Wallis, a party of French amateurs and their friends enjoying music in an upper chamber, the window of which reveals the houses and towers of Paris, while a purple evening twilight succeeds to the garish orange of declining day, and the lustre still fills the room where the lovers of brass and string instruments are in the full swing of their performance, their figures strongly relieved against the light. Their attitudes and faces are full of animation, varied and dramatically rich in expression, rapt in the music, and not without a certain quaintness which is charming. The figure of the performer with the violin, who waits the march of the music so heedfully, and keeps his place so well, is particularly admirable. The harmony, local colour, greys, and illumination of this picture are most artistic. Hardly less attractive is this painter's *Awaiting the Distribution* (50), Belgian women gathered thick before the jube of a large church at Bruges, while behind them is a heap of brown loaves, the dole of some pious founder; the *suisses* and an attendant await the moment to distribute the bread, and the close line of black-robed women of all ages, buxom and luxurious, sedate and sad, withered and wan, with here and there a child or two, gossip eagerly after their kind. This is an admirable study of colour, the black and orange going finely with the grey, and interspersed with higher notes of the chromatic scale—the whole displayed with consummate skill in a perfect harmony of tints, and, while sober almost to sadness, as rich in colour as it can be. Nor are the tones less fine, nor the chiaroscuro less complete. Another, but less important, picture is full of artistic charm—a landscape of the environs of London during a solemn, glowing twilight, with the fierce

lustre of sundown on dense foliage, lush herbage, a sward, and shrubs, an old red-roofed cottage and its darker walls. This is named *Between Hampstead and Highgate* (68). There is abundant grandeur of subject, force of treatment, and epic simplicity in *A Welsh Mountain Lake* (66).

Another landscape represents, with a rare charm and perfect success, Mr. A. W. Hunt's style and his peculiar feeling for the beauty of Whitby. This is *Whitby* (144), one of a noble series of studies recording that picturesqueness and wealth of local colour which "improvements" and "opening up" have already marred sadly. Here is a mystery of vaporous light softly diffused over the Esk at low water, where the orange sands are half seen to be reflecting the dark grey cliffs, the ruddy walls and roofs; the church of St. Mary and the great abbey are wrapped in the same diaphanous veil. This is a marvellous study of that wealth of vivid and deep colour for which Whitby is famous, and, tender as the handling is, the details could not be more solid than they are. As a piece of draughtsmanship notice the keeping of the east pier, its foreshortening and modelling, half obscured though they be by the vapour. We commend likewise *On the East Coast* (314), by the same artist, and his *Wreck of the Globe* (351), that is the fate of an old collier which went ashore somehow near the Nab at Whitby; also *Syracuse from the Theatre* (384), with striking foreshortening of the tiers of seats, and *Entrance to the Acropolis, Athens* (392), a similar subject, equal in fine qualities to the last.—Quite distinct from these, as distinct in style as in subject, are Mrs. Allingham's brilliant, deep-tinted, and homely studies of Surrey cottages seated amid towering trees of superb foliage. There are not fewer than eleven of these beautiful works; we can name but two or three, but they are all delightful. *A Summer's Day* (157) shows a roadside cottage with trees about it and a gravelly lane before it, the whole scene saturated, so to say, in splendid lustre. *Netley Farm, Shere, Surrey*, (202) shows brilliant noon, a little garish as it should be, foliage unlimited in quantity and vividness of colour, a deep blue sky; the whole of rare solidity, and, technically speaking, as strong as if it were painted in oil. *Gossips, Shere, Surrey*, (208) is, we think, the best; it shows a cottage at the brow of a hill, where a ruddy sunlit road dips downwards through woods; a very vivid, perfectly harmonious picture.

Tender and rich in their ineffable mystery of tints and indissoluble tones as are the landscapes of Mr. A. W. Hunt, robust and solid as are Mrs. Allingham's beautiful "bits," there is yet another and quite different kind of art shown in Mr. G. Fripp's *Sketch of the Gouliott Rocks and Caverns, Sark* (168), a grey, firm, fresco-like and highly-finished picture of the rocky margin of a grey and brown, ruddy and olive-tinted coast, with the sea at its foot. It is a fine study of a majestic subject, which has been treated with "classic" severity, and is hardly to be surpassed in the modelling, at once firm and facile, precise and free, of the contour and stratification of the cliffs, their grass-clad heads and weathered slopes. A picture of a subject very familiar to us is *A Hayfield* (24), by the same artist, a view of vast, flat meadows seen stretching as far as the eye can penetrate a misty, sunlit atmosphere. *A Harbour Scene* (59) depicts, with a similar motive to that which inspires the last, a half-reaped meadow, a vista of a ragged path across it, and groups of elms dimmed by vapour.—Mr. F. Powell has never shown more power and delicacy than in *Low Tide* (183), ridges of sand and shining lines of shallow pools between them, here displayed, yet half hidden by sunlight that is filled with vapour till the study is like a huge pearl of subtle silvery tints, being grey and pallid purple set in exquisite harmonies. *Becalmed* (299) shows, with equal tenderness, a little yacht with pearl-like lofty sails, casting far before her on the sea reflections that are as motionless as herself while she stands like a ghost in the steadfast air. With these pictures by Mr. Powell let us name

*A Smoke Cloud* (317), another dream-like subject, magical in its fidelity and delicacy, and comprising a steamer and shadow-like ships, all wrapped in Scottish autumnal sea-mists.—Vigorous but rather forced in its blueness is Mr. Callow's *Mountain and Town* (306), hills that are blue as lapis lazuli, a dark blue lake before them; buildings on a low spit of land, all seen in the light of earliest dawn.

Rubens-like vigour, singular animation, and rare spontaneity of design characterize Mr. W. Duncan's *Bacchic Dance* (311), half-length figures of a bacchante and a faun dancing with all their might; some of the drawing is capital.—*The Arrival* (13), by Mr. E. K. Johnson, a garden scene, where a lady encounters dogs, the harbingers of a returning husband, is admirable in detailed parts, as the flowers of the front, the well-studied and solid, but somewhat hard and cold, white draperies of the lady; her action, too, is good, but the face lacks beauty, though it is soundly drawn and solid. The foliage behind is very inferior in modelling and richness of colour, and defective in light. By this painter we noticed several studies of single female figures: see *A Sketch* (148), *A Study* (123), *Skipping* (77), a pretty figure in white stooping with extended arms, holding a skipping-rope. The last is nicely and delicately drawn, but the action lacks spontaneity. The visitor will enjoy *Meadow Sweet* (370), a child with a burden of flowers.—There is a cleverly-studied figure in Mr. W. Duncan's *One of Oliver's Soldiers* (140), standing bareheaded, book and sword in hand, but the motive is commonplace.—*Study of a Child Sewing* (201), by Mr. R. Barnes, depicts a little girl deliberately "at work," with deep, yet bright attention, heedfully drawing home her needle; a design full of character, a face which is capital in its expression. The style of the picture lacks refinement.—*Companions* (388), by Mr. J. Parker, a girl washing linen, a lamb near, has, in the former, a pretty figure.

*Contentment* (91) is a fine study of cows come to drink at a river-side, and doing so in a leisurely way, which is perfectly rendered by Mr. B. Bradley. The modelling, textures, and characters of the animals are first rate; but it is impossible not to suspect that they were executed in the studio rather than in the open air; and it is probable that the excess of greenish light in this picture is due to neglect to place the model cows out of doors. Something of the same defect strikes us in this painter's study of magnificent dogs of St. Bernard "*On a Mission of Mercy*" (112); the animals are seen tracking a lost traveller in snow. Here the lamp is very obvious: both in the learned, careful, and highly-finished dogs, their hides and actions; and in the inconsistency, so to say, of the light and colour of the dogs with their brilliant white surroundings. Such whiteness could not but contrast so strongly with the hides as to make them look darker than they are here; besides, there are not enough nor sufficiently powerful reflections of the snow on the dogs' figures.

Mr. Marks contributes both figures and landscapes. Of the former the visitor should notice: *Wine and Water* (302), a decorative design of rather severe architectonic character; also *Capital and Labour* (324), two independent figures with unusual richness of colouring, and *Going to Dinner* (364), a procession of men and women, which is not quite so animated as could be wished, and might possibly pall a little on those who were called on to live with it. This painter's landscapes are most enjoyable, and the examples on these walls are the worthy sequels and equals of those in the Dudley Gallery. For instance, *A Common* (328), showing a high white cloud over the shoulder of a verdurous down that is clad in furze, is intense in the key of its colour, very rich in its tones and tints, vigorously modelled, and in all respects delightful. Not at all inferior to this is *Evening in the Marshes* (347), a very solemn and noble little picture.—*Among the Buttercups* (358) introduces us to the works of Mr. A. Goodwin, which display art of high order and varied but true pathos. No. 358 is a drawing of a furze-clad mountain side, exquisitely graded, and painted with rare

solidity, foreground hill tops dark blue is followed by choice, with for instance, a moor picture (49); "U study of like, silver leaves, in the most charming Among a brilliant on the tint. The fo Rigby's Borrowed peaks, at brilliant Mr. F. T. masculine at Picta (49); "U solid.—S (31), horse and effect clouds. The Civil which is Mr. Carl wonderfu their ma obvious Besides Nos. 198 place of of a rugged dark grey Country for him Coast, N sea, rain landscape rime—cla Gover (3 (159) is, I shows an of feeling marred by shadows what show Glennie's Carrara Abbey Ch (396) are. The pi Sketches in Water day). Th on Mond The W ings of th Monday l Mr. Ho may sho ralescent. The pic day) at M have to se C. Barhan The sale i of Miss K An exh opened in Gallery, S of the tow to contrib



solidity, from the bright verdure of the marshy foreground to where the forms and tints of the hill tops are lost in the distance, merged in the dark blue shadow of a cloud which, in moving, is followed in the valley by another cloud. Some of Mr. Goodwin's drawings are especially choice, varied, and powerful studies from nature: for instance, *Dartmoor* (1), a black moorland road, with a lonely cottage, near Gidleigh (?); *Dartmoor* (19); *Geneva* (25), a beautiful and tender picture of delicate effect; *Old Maidstone Bridge* (49); "*Under the Greenwood Tree*" (160), a splendid study of beeches in Knole Park, their serpent-like, silvery stems rising from a ruddy bed of leaves, in sunlight, with a group of black pigs in the mid-distance; *Venetian Sketches* (170), of most charming quality and the highest refinement. Among the grandest is *The Atlas Mountains* (316), a brilliant blue sea at morning, manifold hill tops on the horizon, the whole beautiful in tone and tint.

The following are worthy of mention: Mr. C. Rigby's coast scene (6); Mr. Collingwood's *In Borrowdale* (4), a vista of the vale to high blue peaks, an airy, agreeable sketch; Mr. Buckman's brilliant and solid *Kingsdown, near Deal* (11); Mr. F. Tayler's *Expectation* (23), an animated and masculine sketch of dogs; Mr. A. Glennie's *View at Pisa* (29), the river and bridge, very sunny and solid.—Sir J. Gilbert's *Prisoners, October Evening* (31), horsemen and captives on a waste, is dramatic and effective, stage-like even to the lowering rain-clouds. The same artist sends *An Incident during the Civil War* (145); *The Night March* (164), which is remarkable for dramatic energy of what Mr. Carlyle calls the "fuliginous" kind. It is wonderful how closely alike all these things are; their mannerisms and affectations are almost as obvious as their force and wealth of incidents. Besides the above, Sir J. Gilbert contributes Nos. 198 and 338.—Mr. Lockhart's vigorous *Birth-place of Robinson Crusoe* (36), a wind-eaten nook of a rugged coast, its beach and rough cottages, in dark grey weather, is important.—Mr. Dodgson's *Country Fair Forty Years Ago* (35) is a new subject for him. He sends also a characteristic *Study on the Coast, North Wales* (182), brown rocks, a rugged sea, rain clouds over all; *Winter* (210), a hoary landscape, with almost twilight-like gloom on rime-clad houses, fields, and trees; *Coast of Gower* (365).—Mr. T. Waite's *Valley of the Arun* (159) is, like other pictures of his, very effective; it shows an energetic grasp of the subject, and plenty of feeling for its expansiveness and dignity, much marred by needless and excessive blackness in its shadows and half tones, and a lack of purity in what should be brilliant and rich verdure.—Mr. A. Glennie's *View of the Porta Martana at Massa Carrara* (224). Mr. S. Read's *Tombs in Malvern Abbey Church* (229), and Mr. C. Whaites's *Solitude* (396) are also praiseworthy.

### First-Ext Gossip.

The private view of the Winter Exhibition of Sketches and Studies by the Institute of Painters in Water Colours is appointed for to-day (Saturday). The gallery will be opened to the public on Monday next.

The Winter Exhibition of Sketches and Paintings of the Society of British Artists opened on Monday last.

Mr. HOLMAN HUNT is considerably better, and may shortly, it is hoped, be pronounced convalescent.

The picture-selling season begins to-day (Saturday) at Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods', who have to sell paintings belonging to the late Rev. C. Barham, the late Mr. H. N. Jordan, and others. The sale includes a portrait, attributed to Hogarth, of Miss Katherine Hamilton.

An exhibition of pictures and drawings is to be opened in the Atkinson Free Library and Art Gallery, Southport, promoted by the Corporation of the town, to which gathering artists are invited to contribute by sending works between the 1st

and the 8th of February next. The gallery will be open between the 1st of March and the 28th of June next. Mr. Smith, Charles Street, Middlesex Hospital, is the London agent for this exhibition.

GENERAL DI CESNOLA has delivered a series of four lectures in the Chickering Hall, New York, on the ancient arts of Cyprus. He began with an account of Phœnician fictile modelling and painting, sculpture in stone, and chasing in gold, silver, and bronze, and gave descriptions and historical elucidations of the Treasure of Kourium, which was described in these columns while negotiations were carried on for its purchase by the British Museum. These addresses were found very attractive in New York, the Hall being crowded during their delivery.

MR. CRACE has lent a portion of his collection of maps, plans, and views of London to the South Kensington Museum, and they will be placed in the west galleries. The exhibition will be open to the public about Christmas time.

THE Louvre has received, says the *Chronique des Arts*, an important addition in the well-known bust of Filippo Strozzi, by B. da Majano: it will shortly be placed in the Galerie d'Apollon. The same museum has acquired a female statue found in the neighbourhood of Vienne (Isère), representing a Venus seated on the ground (*accroupie*). It will enrich one of the Salles des Antiques.

THE annual meeting of the Glasgow Archaeological Society was held on the 28th ult., Prof. Young presiding. The Report by the Foreign Secretary on the archaeological work accomplished in foreign countries during the past year was held over. The annual Report of the Council was then read by the Hon. Secretary, after which the following gentlemen were appointed office-bearers and Council of Management for the ensuing year:—President, Very Rev. Principal Caird, D.D.; Vice-Presidents, Prof. Young, M.D., Prof. Veitch, LL.D., and Mr. Michael Connal. Mr. William George Black read a paper entitled 'Common Sympathetic Recipes: a Chapter of Folk-Medicine.'

It is proposed to erect, by subscription, a statue of Admiral Coligny in the court of the Louvre, near the spot where he fell during the massacre of St. Bartholomew. Why, one might ask, should not a statue be likewise erected, in a neighbouring place, to the memory of Jean Goujon, who was a blameless victim of the "St. Bartholomew"? An architectonic memorial exists in the building which is connected with the fame and the death of the great French sculptor; but this is not equal to the occasion.

MR. W. HOLYOAKE writes:—"In 1877 one of my pictures, No. 611 in the Royal Academy Exhibition, was entitled,

'Twas ever so! 'twas ever so!  
Lovers' vows are traced in snow.

This picture and the copyright thereof I sold under an impression that it would be engraved; you will conceive my surprise when I saw an advertisement of Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin's that a chromo-lithograph of my picture is to be issued with one of their magazines, with the title curtailed to 'Traced in Snow.' In the first place, I would not have sold the copyright of my picture had I have known it would have been reproduced in chromo-lithography; having parted with it without stipulation, I know any objection upon my part would meet with little attention. In the second place, I fail to discover the right of any firm to alter the title of my work, and destroy the whole motive for which it was produced. The insertion of this note, I think, may draw attention to a practice on the part of publishers both common and unjust. Even more objectionable still, the picture, I discover, has been altered in form, having large pieces cut off either end, and so converted from a lateral to a vertical shape, to suit the form of the magazine. Comment is unnecessary."

## MUSIO

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

MADAME AMBRE has now essayed three characters in popular operas, Margherita in M. Gounod's 'Faust,' and Violetta and Gilda in Signor Verdi's 'Traviata' and 'Rigoletto.' In these parts, although she has displayed a certain amount of dramatic capability of a conventional kind, the inequalities in the *timbre* of the voice and the irregularities in the execution of scales, combined with a precarious intonation, are too prevalent to justify her pretensions to be a *prima donna assoluta* at a first-class Italian opera-house. Her method is, in point of fact, really that of the *opéra bouffe* class of singers, who boldly essay *bravura* passages, without caring whether precision and certainty of the roulades be attained. One ornament Madame Ambre resorts to as her *cheval de bataille* of florid illustration is the shake, which is not always certain, but it is her best ornament when not employed too often. The jerking resorted to to bring out the high notes is sometimes so sudden as to shock the ear rather than to charm it, and as the medium and lower notes are faint and obscure, little or no effect can be achieved. As there are at least three artists in the company who could both act and sing more artistically and efficiently Margherita, Violetta, and Gilda, it is not surprising that the new-comer fails to attract the operatic public; and the state of the house, full only in the cheapest places, shows that more thorough vocal proficiency is required to gain sympathy from the connoisseurs; earnestness and energy are excellent attributes for a *prima donna*, but finish, delicacy, refinement, pathos, and passion are required to realize such creations as those of Goethe, Dumas, and Victor Hugo, set by such composers as M. Gounod and Signor Verdi.

The cheap season is not to be prolonged beyond this month, and the visitors to the Cattle Show are to have morning performances on the 11th, with Mdlle. Marimon and Madame Trebelli in 'Faust,' and on the 14th with the same two artists in 'Dinorah.' On the 4th inst. there was another morning representation of 'Carmen,' the popularity of which, thanks to the skill with which Bizet has turned to account Spanish and Moorish tunes, and to the admirable acting and singing of Madame Trebelli, is undiminished.

There is one point connected with these representations at reduced prices which must not be overlooked. Owing to the system of allowing deputies to take the places of the players regularly engaged, the band has become fluctuating and variable, for leading and well-known soloists have constant calls upon their skill in the provinces and in the metropolis also. Substitutes may be very competent, but the excellence or perfection of an orchestra can only be secured by the members playing constantly together and by their understanding the beat and signs of the conductor. There have been recently too many signs of unsteadiness, and if the autumn and winter undertaking is to be permanent, the engagement of an unvarying list of instrumentalists must be insured.

HECTOR BERLIOZ.

THE programme of the ninth Sydenham Saturday afternoon concert, on the 30th ult., Mr. Manns conductor, included the symphony by Berlioz, 'Harold in Italy'; the 'Song of Destiny' for chorus and orchestra ('Schicksalslied'), by Herr Brahms; and the setting of the forty-second psalm, "As the Hart pants," by Mendelssohn; the solos and choruses by Mrs. Osgood, Messrs. Tower, Beckett, Thorndike, D'Egville, and the Crystal Palace choir. The interest of this scheme centred in the introduction of the orchestral symphony by the French composer, Hector Berlioz, and the enthusiastic reception of his powerful and thoroughly original work proved that there has been too much hesitation felt about the wisdom of producing his symphonies. In England, when he was conductor of the New Philharmonic Society and musical director at Drury Lane

Theatre, the genius of Berlioz was acknowledged; but, after he left this country, partisanship, jealousy, and revengeful feeling combined to deify him. In Paris there is now a complete reaction in his favour, and his works are constantly before the public at the Conservatoire, at Padeloup's Concerts, and at the Châtelet Concerts. This reaction has at last reached Sydenham, where the French masters are no longer ignored. The 'Symphonie Fantastique' was first executed in Paris in 1833, and created a perfect *furor*; and despite the gibes of his enemies, the work has survived their sneers. Berlioz wrote the alto (viola) part at the express desire of Paganini, whose notion was to play the piece on a Stradivarius tenor violin he possessed; but as it was not showy enough for the gifted executant, Berlioz transferred the solo to a series of scenes, the viola to represent 'Childe Harold,' for Berlioz was intensely Byronian as well as Shakspearean. 'Harold,' of course, has no pretensions to be called abstract music; quite the contrary—it is essentially descriptive and dramatic. Harold's dreamy nature is predominant in a constantly recurring *motif*. To the first three movements adverse criticism can take no objection; with respect to the *finale*, the Orgy of Brigands, those who consider that the bacchanal manifestation of robbers ought to be delineated in soft and soothing strains will pronounce the *finale* to be too boisterous; *allegro frenetico* must necessarily be *fortissimo*, and not *pianissimo*, and the brass instruments consequently are in full force, relieved by a *réprie* ever and anon of the delicious themes in the former movements. The second movement, the March and Evening Prayer of Pilgrims, *allegretto*, is the gem, however, of the symphony. Often as we have heard it in Paris the encore was always inevitable—on the 30th Mr. Manns declined the redemand. In the entire range of orchestral pieces there is nothing more picturesque and captivating than this march of the pilgrims. The instrumentation is as novel as it is beautiful; it keeps hearers breathless with attention as the dying tones of the convent bell are heard in the distance. Herr Strauss had the responsibility of the viola *obbligato*, and if he did not cause us to forget the way in which the part was performed in Paris, his was not the less a highly artistic interpretation. The cheering at the close of the symphony was long continued.

Note must be taken of the "run" on Berlioz's works at the present period in Paris. At the opening of La Société des Concerts du Conservatoire last Sunday (December 1), the overture 'Le Carnaval Romain' was included in the programme. On the same day, at the sixth of M. Padeloup's Concerts at the Cirque d'Hiver, Berlioz's orchestration of Weber's 'Invitation à la Valse' was in the scheme; and at the Châtelet concert, also on the Sunday, there was the eighteenth consecutive execution of the 'Damnation de Faust.' When will the last-mentioned remarkable setting of Goethe's poem be heard here?

## CONCERTS.

THE list of Spohr's chamber compositions in the repertoire of the Monday Popular Concerts was increased, on the 2nd inst., by his String Quartet in A major, Op. 93, in which the leading violin has such a prominent part: it was finely played by Madame Norman-Néruda, whose finished style and subdued power remind hearers of the essential element of Spohr's violin playing; MM. Ries, Zerbini and Piatti were the Moravian lady's colleagues. Mdlle. Janotha, the Polish pianist, confirmed the favourable impression she made last season by her execution of Beethoven's Variations in C minor, Op. 36, and of the pianoforte part in the Quartet by Herr Brahms in A major, Op. 26. Fräulein Redeker, in songs by Stradella, Giordani, Henschel, and Jensen, quite enlisted the sympathies of her hearers. Mr. Zerbini was the accompanist. At the Saturday concert of the 30th ult., Mr. Santley was the vocalist. Fräulein Janotha played Beethoven's Sonata *quasi Fantasia*

in E flat, Op. 27, No. 2, and joined in Mendelssohn's Sonata in D major, Op. 58, for pianoforte and strings; the other piece was Beethoven's String Quartet in E flat, Op. 74. Sir J. Benedict was the conductor.

Signor Negroni, a tenor, had an afternoon concert in the Steinway Hall, on Saturday, November 30th, which was well attended. He sang Mr. Sullivan's ballad 'Once Again' (encored), displaying a powerful voice, and one that is well in tune. His pupil, Miss Jaquet, made her *début* on this occasion; but her nervousness evidently affected her sympathetic but weak mezzo-soprano organ in Mr. Sullivan's 'Lost Chord,' in which the notes require to be well sustained. The other singer was Miss Sullivan. Miss Perkins played a solo on the violin on the 'Faust' themes, and Herr Carl Hause was the pianist. Balfe's duet, "Trust her not," between Miss Sullivan and Miss Jaquet, was redemanded.

Madame Worrell-Duval undertook the soprano part, *vice* Miss Laura Clement, in the cantata, 'The Daughter of Jairus,' by Dr. Stainer, who presided at the organ at its performance by the Brixton Choral Society, on the 27th ult. The composer (the organist of St. Paul's Cathedral) was applauded at the close of the work.

The singers at the fifth of the London Ballad Concerts, in St. James's Hall, on the 4th inst., were Mesdames Lemmens and A. Sterling, Miss M. Davies, Messrs. Sims Reeves, E. Lloyd, A. Moore, Maybrick, and Santley, with the London Vocal Union, and Madame Arabella Goddard pianist.

Miss Emma Barnett, in her programme of pianoforte works at her recital in the Langham Hall, on the 4th inst., illustrated mainly the compositions of the ancient and accepted masters, namely, Bach, Scarlatti, Handel, Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, and Mendelssohn. When she turned to living composers it was natural she should select three pieces (encored) by her teacher and brother, who is also an able pianist and tried composer. Miss Barnett had the vocal aid of Miss E. Dones and Mr. B. Lane, with Mr. C. Trew accompanist.

Mr. J. S. Shedlock, the pianist, selected works by Chopin in the first part of his programme of the 4th inst., at the third of his Classical Musical Evenings in the Royal Academy of Music concert hall. He was assisted by Mr. G. Palmer (violin), Herr Lütgen (violinello), Herr Liebich and Mr. E. Shute accompanists, and the Misses Arthur and Damien vocalists.

## BEETHOVEN'S PIANOFORTE SONATAS.

225, Brunswick Street, Manchester.

THE observation of your critic touching Dr. Von Bülow's and Ertel's dates of Beethoven's sonatas, namely, "The conflict of authorities on these dates is rather bewildering," is quite justified so far as these two gentlemen are concerned. It may also with equal force apply both to Marx and Lenz, although the third edition of Marx's work contains not only a complete and exhaustive catalogue, but also a sensible editorial remark, that composers and publishers would do a great public good by putting the dates on the works they compose and publish. There need, however, be no further confusion on the subject, thanks to the untiring zeal and efforts of Thayer and Nottebohm. The elaborate catalogues of these two enthusiasts clear up pretty well all doubts on the question, and they should certainly be in the hands of all lovers of Beethoven and his music. To those who cannot read German, a catalogue of my own in English dress, founded on Thayer and Nottebohm, in Rudall's 'Musical Directory' of 1871 may be useful. Although possibly a few errors may have crept in, I think it may be, on the whole, relied upon.

JOHN TOWERS, Pupil of Prof. Marx.

## Musical Gossip.

MDLLE. JANOTHA will be the pianist at the Crystal Palace Concert on Saturday afternoon

(December 7th), and will play a Beethoven Concerto, No. 4 in G.

THE fourth of the St. James's Hall Saturday Evening Concerts will take place on the 7th inst. (Saturday).

WALLACE'S 'Lurline' was the opera performed at the Alexandra Palace on the 30th ult., with Madame Blanche Cole, Miss Franklein, Messrs. G. Perren, Ludwig, Marler, and G. Fox in the cast, and Mr. F. Archer conductor.

ROSSINI'S oratorio 'Moses in Egypt' will be performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society on Friday, the 13th inst., Sir Michael Costa conductor. The solo singers will be Mesdames Lemmens, Enequist, J. Elton; Messrs. Cummings, Lloyd, Wells, Hilton, Bridson, and Santley.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE will be reopened on Saturday, the 7th inst., with the appearance of Mr. Sims Reeves as Tom Tug, in the 'Waterman,' and during the following week he will sing in the 'Beggars' Opera' and 'Guy Mannering.'

MR. F. GYE, the Impresario of the Royal Italian Opera-house, died on Wednesday night, at the seat of Viscount Dillon, from the effects of a gun accident. Mr. Gye, who was the son of a tea-dealer in the City, was close upon seventy years of age. He first became connected, on the introduction of Mr. Mitchell, with the Covent Garden Opera-house when it was in the hands of Mr. Delafield, in 1849. He assumed the sole management of the music on the secession of Sir M. Costa, in 1869, and continued to carry on the theatre with unabated vigour down to the close of last season. He possessed administrative abilities of the first order, which found an ample field for their exercise in the management of a large opera-house.

PROF. ELLA is recovering from the operation performed on his left eye successfully by Dr. Bowman. On the 19th inst. Mr. Ella will celebrate his seventy-sixth birthday. He will resume his Musical Union season after the Easter of 1879.

THE English translation of Gounod's work has been completed by Mr. Pittmann, but the chance of 'Polyeucte' being done in London at a national opera-house is slight.

SPOHR'S 'Last Judgment' will be performed during Advent in St. Paul's Cathedral, with principals, full band, and chorus.

A CONCERT will be given on the evening of December 17th in the Steinway Hall, at which the students of Madame Sainton's Vocal Academy will appear; M. Sainton will be the conductor.

MADAME ADELINA PATTI has met with her usual success in Berlin.

DR. VON BÜLOW had a pianoforte recital at Brighton on the 30th ult.

MADAME NILSSON is at present in Paris, and is soon to be installed as Grand Mistress of the Ancient Masonic Order of the Eastern Star, composed principally of ladies of rank.

THE Cambridge University Musical Society has nominated Mr. Burnett, the leader of the Glasgow Choral Union Concerts, an honorary member.

THE Cambridge Board of Musical Studies recently appointed has turned its attention to the lack of instruction for candidates for Holy Orders in music. Considering the great influence which clergymen exercise over school and church music, it is most desirable that it should be exerted intelligently and beneficially. Next term Mr. Sedley Taylor will give six lectures on the elements of sound and music, and the best methods of elementary musical instruction; to be followed by six lectures from Dr. Garret, M.A., University organist, on choir training, speaking and singing, intoning, chanting, hymnology, service-music, and anthems. Musical illustrations will be provided.

THE French Chamber of Deputies has passed the Budget of Theatres and of Music. The National Opera-house obtains 32,000*l.*; the Opéra Comique, 14,400*l.*; the Théâtre Lyrique, 8,000*l.*; the Auditions Annuelles (Symphonic Concerts, &c.), 3,200*l.*;

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additional grants to the Grand Opera-house, Dotation de la Caisse, amount to 800*l*., and plant for the theatre to 200*l*.; for the Conservatoire de Musique et de Déclamation 9,600*l*. was voted; to the École de Musique at Toulouse, 212*l*.; and 160*l*. each to the Musical Schools at Marseilles, Lyons, Dijon, Nantes, and Lille. As regards the future management of the National Opera, the lease of M. Halanzier expiring in October, 1879, the Government and the Committee of the Budget are deliberating about it. The Théâtre Lyrique Populaire will be re-established at the Gaîté, under the joint support of the Government and the Paris Municipal Council. The committee nominated to report about the future management recommend that in addition to the regular *répertoire*, that of the Grand Opera-house shall be also used, the Lyrique to find orchestra, chorus, and *corps de ballet*, and the Académie Nationale to supply the solo singers. Artistic and literary rights are to be respected; the prices of admission to be fixed by the joint direction; and two gratuitous performances to be given every year, one of them a day representation on the Sunday, the *répertoires* of the Grand Opéra alone to be played. The lessee will be bound to fulfil all these conditions, which, however, will certainly meet with strenuous opposition, as they are not in accordance with existing treaties and agreements, and the project could only be carried out if there were one director for both opera-houses, who would be compelled to engage double companies.

M. MASSENET, the composer of 'Le Roi de Lahore' and of 'Les Erinnyes,' has been elected a Member of the Section of Music of the Paris Académie des Beaux-Arts *vice* Bazin, deceased. M. Saint-Saëns had the next greatest number of votes. M. Massenet is composing a second grand opera for the National Theatre, libretto by MM. Cormon and de Beauplan, besides a three-act comic opera for the Salle Favart, the book by MM. Meilhac and L. Halévy.

At the Salle du Châtelet, the "drame-oratorio," 'Paradis Perdu,' the words by M. Blau, the music by M. T. Dubois, has been performed by direction of the Paris Municipal Council, M. Dubois, at the competition, having gained the first prize. The characters are Satan (M. Lauwers), the Archangel Michael (Mdlle. S. Bonheur), Adam (M. Fürst), and Eve (Mdlle. Jenny Howe). M. Seguin has a baritone part of a demon; also MM. Villaret  *fils* and Lebarre. M. Colonne was the conductor. The first movement depicts Chaos, the second the Révolte et l'Enfer, and the last parts Paradis terrestre and the Judgment, with Adam, Eve, and Satan. Reminiscences of Meyerbeer, Bishop, M. Gounod, &c., abound, but some of the orchestral effects were admired. M. Dubois is organist at the Madeleine, and Professor of Harmony at the Conservatoire. The local critics seem to be of opinion that Milton had better have been left alone, especially as Félicien David had produced 'Eden,' and M. Massenet 'Eve.' Theile, two centuries since, wrote a German opera 'Adam und Eva,' and Herr Rubinstein has also treated the theme, not to mention Haydn's 'Creation,' without any *diablerie*.

AN amateur writes to us from Vienna, dated the 29th ult., referring to the production of the German version of M. Gounod's French opera 'Philémon et Baucis,' and of Herr Wagner's 'Siegfried':—"At the first representation of the former work the public was very cold during the first act, but after Herr Rokitsansky had sung the first air as Jupiter, the success was certain, and there was great enthusiasm. Herr Walter was Philémon, and Fraulein Ehn Baucis. The opera has been given fourteen times. 'Siegfried' at the first two representations attracted full houses at the Imperial Opera-house, but the last three times the attraction quite ceased, and the theatre was almost empty. The prevalent reply to the question asked in Vienna as to which number of 'Siegfried' is preferred is 'The Buffet,' for the execution lasted between five and six hours. The 'Götterdämmerung,' the final opera of the trilogy,

was in preparation. Signor Verdi's 'Sicilian Vespers' has been revived after twenty-two years, when it was given with the late Tietjens, whose successor, Fraulein Angeri, is not popular. In the cast Herren Müller, Beck, and Rokitsansky were included. The Helmsberger Quartet Classical Chamber Concerts have commenced, with their usual success. The Künstler Saturday Evening Concerts are in progress. The return of Madame Pauline Lucca as Selika in the 'Africaine' has been enthusiastically greeted."

## DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

HAYMARKET.—'The Crisis,' a Comedy, in Four Acts Adapted from 'Les Fourchambault' of Emile Augier. By James Albery.

PRINCESS.—'No. 20; or, the Bastille of Calvados,' a Drama, in Four Acts. By James Albery and Joseph Hatton.

No more success than usually waits on the effort to adapt a French piece to English tastes has attended Mr. Albery in the preparation of his version of 'Les Fourchambault.' A comedy which obtained a success on a first hearing and stands a chance of being permanently popular has, indeed, been produced. By a clumsy and costly process, however, a slight blemish of the French original is removed, and in its place is given a piece of truly English coarseness. Accepting the position that a girl may be deluded by a promise of marriage which is not intended to be kept, and that from such treachery a child with no recognized father may spring, M. Augier's comedy is as healthy and pure a drama as the modern stage has seen. It is a picture of virtue and respectability almost Philistine in their narrowness, and the vices it lashes are extravagance in expenditure, marital weakness, and other *bourgeois* failings. By a wholly unnecessary and, in fact, unavailing process, Mr. Albery converts the woman who has yielded to temptation into the victim of what he chooses to call an unreal marriage. After this concession to squeamishness, he makes a father of a family, in presence of his own unmarried daughter, tell a resident in his house, also unmarried, that she is believed to be the mistress of his son. This dishonouring charge is subsequently repeated.

After a protest constantly renewed against the attempt to hamper the dramatist by prudish and puritanical restrictions, it would be inconsistent to blame Mr. Albery for using a term like that indicated if it had any dramatic value. It is wholly needless, however, and, following the alteration described, it serves only to show how ready is the adapter to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. For the rest, Mr. Albery has done his work well. He has supplied dialogue which is quite different from that of M. Augier, but which is deficient neither in epigram nor in strength, and he has produced a play sufficiently stimulating at one or two points to obtain forgiveness from an audience for much needless, some coarse, and some wearisome talk. It is difficult to apportion the praise and blame between the author and the adapter, since, if the former may claim the merit of invention, his dialogue in portions is, from an English standpoint, more tedious and undramatic than anything in the English version.

What dramatic vitality 'The Crisis' possesses is attributable to the force of two scenes, the first, that in which the son gathers, from

his mother's eagerness to induce him to take upon himself the responsibility of the banker's debts, that the man he is to assist is his father; the second, one in which, while teaching his younger brother the lesson of true nobility, he receives from that impetuous youth a blow, and forgives it as coming from his brother. This scene is, indeed, thoroughly touching, and in France, where more emotional acting is supplied, it has acquired a species of fame of its own. It was finely rendered in England, and proved thoroughly impressive, its effect being, indeed, to lift into success a play that a few minutes previously trembled on the verge of failure. Mr. Kelly was strong, masculine, and yet tender in the manner in which he supported his brother's impertinences, and Mr. Terriss, who once or twice previously had been over-demonstrative, was at that point all that could be desired. In the earlier scene the triumph was carried off by Miss Louise Moodie, who presented a picture of tenderness and resignation quite unsurpassable. A performance more artistic and more capable has seldom been seen on our stage. Miss Eastlake, as the governess whose reputation is sullied by the attention of the banker's son, was graceful and attractive, and in the last scene displayed emotional power. Mr. D. Fisher was unsatisfactory in the part of a radical young nobleman, a *rôle* which supplants that of the Baron Rastiboulis, created by M. Thiron. Mrs. John Wood was far too demonstrative as Mrs. Denham, the woman whose extravagance is the cause of the banker's ruin. Mr. Howe was a satisfactory Mr. Denham.

'No. 20; or, the Bastille of Calvados,' by Messrs. Albery and Hatton, proves to be a melo-drama with few claims to a rank higher than is accorded the majority of similar compositions. Some ingenuity is shown in the arrangement of the incidents. So strong is, however, the demand on the credulity of the audience which is made by the principal situation, this is, for practical purposes, a failure. As the comic business, perhaps through the fault of the interpreter, is displeasing, the result cannot be considered satisfactory. To give the play the hold on the public it now lacks, the characters of the hero and heroine should be rendered more sympathetic, and the business of the crowning scene should be much simplified.

### MR. WIGAN.

THE death of Mr. Alfred Wigan removes one more of the stage landmarks of the early half and the middle of the present century. Some uncertainty prevails as to his exact age and the period of his first appearance. According to 'Men of the Time,' the information in which is frequently supplied by the subject of the notice, he was born in Blackheath, in Kent, on March 24th, 1818, and made his *début* in 1836-7 at the Queen's Theatre, not, of course, to be confounded with the building now bearing the name. The *Era Almanack*, a fairly trustworthy authority on such subjects, declares that he played at the St. James's under the name of Sydney. Marshall, in his 'Lives of the most Celebrated Actors and Actresses,' writing in January, 1847, speaks of him as the son of a teacher of languages, subsequently Secretary to the Dramatic Authors' Society, and asserts he was born "during the commotion of 1814." He appears to have first acted under his own name in 1839, when he played Sir Conrad in Sheridan Knowles's 'Love,' originally produced at Covent Garden in that year. Drury Lane, the Lyceum, the Haymarket, the

Princess's, and the Olympic, according to 'Men of the Time,' with the addition of the Strand in 1843, according to Marshall, saw him in turns. In 1853 he commenced management at the Olympic, and retired in consequence of ill health in 1857. In 1860 he undertook the management of the St. James's, which he held until 1863. In 1867 the new Queen's Theatre opened under his direction, and in 1868-9 he was one of the company at the Gaiety. His farewell of the stage took place at Drury Lane in 1872, since which time his only appearances have been for benefits. Mr. Wigan's range was narrow, but within that range his art was excellent, recalling in many respects that of M. Lafontaine, of the Comédie Française. His performances in the 'Isle of St. Tropez,' 'The First Night,' 'A Scrap of Paper,' and more especially in a version of 'Le Gentilhomme Pauvre' of D'Ennery, are well and deservedly remembered. Mr. Wigan commenced the task of adaptation from the French in 1845, when he produced at the Lyceum a farce in two acts, entitled 'Luck's All,' and continued it until his resignation of the management of the St. James's.

### Dramatic Gossip.

A COMEDIETTA, called 'The Henwichters,' by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, produced on Monday night at the Haymarket, turns upon a chance resemblance in a photograph, and the wrath of a wife who finds it in hands in which it has no business to be. There is some idea, but little execution, in the work.

'CONRAD; OU, LA MORTE CIVILE,' a translation by M. Auguste Vitu of a drama of Signor Giacometti, which forms part of the *répertoire* of Signor Salvini, has been successfully produced at the Odéon. The principal part was taken by M. Pujol. Madame Hélène Petit, Madame Crosnier, Mlle. Marie Bergé, a *débutante*, and MM. François and Valbel took part in the interpretation.

'CYMBELINE' was revived on Wednesday at Drury Lane for the benefit of Miss Wallis, who made her first appearance in the rôle of Imogen. Miss Wallis's performance of this part had genuine pathos as well as picturesqueness, and was only marred by a tendency the actress must conquer to put too much acerbity into the delivery of the stronger passages. The Leonatus of Mr. Compton is crude, but proves the young actor the most promising of the rising school of tragedians, if such a thing as a school can be said to exist.

ALBERT EMIL BRACHVOGEL, the dramatic writer and novelist, died suddenly in Berlin on November 27th, at the age of fifty-five. He was born at Breslau, and educated at the Magdalen Gymnasium. To the great disapprobation of his parents, who had placed him in the *atelier* of a painter, he showed a passionate inclination to the profession of actor. After his mother's death he went to Vienna and appeared upon the stage; but he failed so signally that he determined to renounce acting and devote himself to literature. He returned to Breslau and studied at the University. In 1847 he married and settled in Berlin, but losing his whole fortune in 1853, he saw himself compelled to work for his living, and took the situation of secretary to Kroll's Theatre. It was in this character in 1857 that he produced his most famous work, the 'Narciss,' which has been translated into nearly every European language, and which, as Max Ring observed, has brought tears to the eyes of almost every theatre-goer in Germany. It was being performed in Berlin at the time of his death. In addition to his plays, Brachvogel published a series of novels and historical romances, which attained immense popularity, some biographies, and a volume of theatrical essays.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. H. B.—T. S.—H.—G. W.—N.—T. H. C.—W. P.—W. H. S.—T. B.—received.  
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